

SPECIAL EXPANDED ISSUE!

FBI: FEDERAL or FOREIGN BUREAU of INVESTIGATION?

SOLDIER OF FORTUNE

HAS SADDAM GONE NUCLEAR?

Exclusive!

ULTRA-MODERN, 21st CENTURY

BULLPUP

MARCH 1998

48493



CAN. \$5.75 UK £2.60 U.S. \$4.99

MOHAMMED vs. MAO: THE REBELLION

#BXBBK*****3-DIGIT 750
#75007GNZ221HG005# SLDR 245
S0347 B0002 DEC 98
FRED R GONZALES
2218 HIGH POINT DR
CARROLLTON TX 75007-1707

IBIAN MILITIAS LEGAL

SAVE \$30

DON'T WAIT...

SUBSCRIBE TODAY

- 12 Issues for \$29.95 **SAVE \$30 Off Newsstand**
- 24 Issues for \$46.80 **SAVE \$72 Off Newsstand**

TO USE MC/VISA CALL 1-800-877-5207

INTERNATIONAL 1-815-734-4151 or FAX 1-303-444-5617

Please Check One: Payment Enclosed Bill Me (U.S. & CAN. Only)

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE: _____

ZIP/COUNTRY: _____

U.S. Funds Only. Canada add \$10/yr. (Includes GST BN 12847 6249 RT). Other Countries Add \$21/yr.

SOF

Soldier Of Fortune

MAGAZINE

B245BI

THE DAKOTA T-76 LONGBOW TACTICAL ENGAGEMENT RIFLE:

The demand for special-application firearms has given rise to a glut of so-called "tactical" weapons that are, quite frankly, nothing more than recycled deer rifles of questionable origin, given a coat of black paint and some high-tech gimmicks. Most of these offer infinitely more promise than performance.

The Longbow was built from the ground up, starting with the legendary strength and reliability of the Dakota Arms action. The final product is nothing short of incredible. Consider what the Longbow offers in its .338 Lapua configuration:

- An effective range of 1500 meters, well beyond .30 caliber weapons.
- A 1/2 MOA guarantee.
- Under 15 pounds of total weight and a streamlined design, freeing it of the limitations of .50 caliber heavy-weights.
- Up to 5250 ft. lbs. of muzzle energy, produced by a 300 grain bullet traveling at 2850 fps.



The Dakota Longbow is a tactical weapon of incredible accuracy, power, and flexibility. Our reputation for outstanding large-caliber hunting guns has been earned in the remotest corners of the planet under the most difficult conditions. Now, those same qualities are available for law enforcement and military use.

Centuries ago, the most feared weapon was the longbow in the hands of a skilled archer. Historians say it changed the face of battle forever.

A new Longbow is doing the same thing again.

Available in .338 Lapua Magnum, .300 Dakota Magnum and .330 Dakota Magnum.

HC 55, Box 326
Sturgis, SD 57785
tel 605.347.4686
fax 605.347.4459
e-mail: dakarms@sturgis.com
<http://www.dakotaarms.com>

**DAKOTA ARMS**
INC

Longbow

SOF

CONTENTS

MARCH 1998
Vol. 23 No. 3



Peter G. Kokalis

On the Cover
Kokalis gives the authoritative heads-up on Vektor's compact and innovative CR21 bullpup, likely the finest ever produced. Story on page

38

FEATURES

CASH, KALASHNIKOV'S AND CABINDANS

Rob Krott

Ideology is a distant second to oilfields' control in the flare-ups in Angola's Cabinda Province, long the scene of murky intrigue and nasty wars.

34

BEST OF THE BULLPUPS?

Peter G. Kokalis

The lowdown on the upscale, versatile, and alluring Vektor CR21, the compact and unique challenger on the international arms' stage.

38

SOF JUMPS INTO CUBA

E. Lee Shippey

SOF's Hemingwayesque duo bails out over Cuba, parties hearty amid Havana's glitz, and analyzes the present-day death-throes of Castro's *Revolucion*.

42

THE SADDAMIC BOMB

Al J. Venter

An in-depth report on Saddam's doings, his motivations, and shell-game tactics. Just when it appeared safe to emerge from '50s-era nuclear hysteria, the Iraqi dictator threatens the Mideast — and beyond.

48

JIANG'S JIHAD

Mike Winchester

Hope is on the rise in far-flung China as armed rebels emerge as popular folk heroes. The Beijing regime's clampdown on dissidents has only spawned further smoldering unrest.

52

UNCOMPAGHRE PROVING GROUNDS

John Hogan

Bob Brown's hunting and T&E hiatus into Colorado's high country, this time accompanied by celebrities from the hit TV series, *SOLDIER OF FORTUNE, INC.*

56

A LAW UNTO THEMSELVES

Dr. Tom Marks

Colombia's benchmark Supreme Court-ruling okays militia groups. Great news for those ~~looking~~ to take down the drug cartels, but what about wannabe *el supremos*?

60

ACRONYM TURF WARS

Mark H. Milstein

J. Edgar's clones take on the CIA for control of overseas turf. Thanks to Eastern Europe's thugs — Russian Mafia and otherwise — the Agency's *Haavaad* boys opt for the high ground, while the I's "troops" get down in the trenches.

64

A MINE IS A TERRIBLE THING TO WASTE

Richard L. Sherrow

The moment's pet cause is "ban the land mines." Well-meaning, but how feasible? A retired EOD expert flips the switch on the latest feel-good crusade.

66

MERC'S MULTI-TOOLS

Don McLean

SOF T&Es and recommends these hardcore babies from Leatherman, Gerber, Kershaw, Coast Cutlery, Catcoctin Cutlery, Imperial Schrade, Buck, and A.G. Russell.

70



Henry Arvidsson, UNSCOM

COLUMNS

Command Guidance	4	World Sitrep	30
Bulletin Board	6	Combat Weaponcraft	32
ATF's Safety Edict Bombs		Happy Hallways	
Slick Willie Watch	15	Supply Depot	89
Vets Help, Love Addicts & Car Trouble		Classified	93
FLAK	20	Advertisers' Index	97
Silent Knights		Sound Off	98
Adventure Quartermaster	24	Mad-Dog Saddam Vs. Wait-And-See-Clinton	
Hornady's Lock-n-Load Classic			
I Was There	28		
Eyewitness: Liberia			



Richard Sherrow



courtesy Buck Knives

COMMAND GUIDANCE

by Robert K. Brown

For Sale To The Highest Bidder

When the mostly incorrect story first broke that the Clinton administration had been selling burial plots in Arlington National Cemetery, it was widely and instantly accepted in news rooms as a matter of sworn and attested truth. Even the most dedicated Clintonistas in the media were slow to doubt those reports. Maureen Dowd of the *New York Times* said that, of course, it was easy to believe, because everything else in the Clinton administration happens to be for sale.

The fact is that Bill Clinton and his people assign a particularly low value to matters traditionally held to be sacred, or nearly so, by most of us. All things patriotic, including death in service to one's country, are obviously viewed contemptuously and most likely as somewhat stupid, by a president who used senatorial influence to avoid the military challenge of his generation.

The matter of not exchanging Arlington grave sites for campaign contributions is one of the things presidents are expected to hold inviolate no matter how much money is involved. Unfortunately, that is not the kind of administration we have as the case of the late Democratic party moneyman Larry Lawrence demonstrates. Lawrence, who, despite his claims and the verification of them by the White House, was proven *not* to have served aboard a ship torpedoed off the Port of Minsk in WWII. In addition, Lawrence never served in the Merchant Marine nor any other U.S. force, but he was, nonetheless, "temporarily" buried in Arlington National Cemetery in section C-7 which is normally reserved for Medal of Honor recipients and chairmen of the joint chiefs of staff.

What Lawrence did do in the service of his country was donate \$10 million to the Democratic party, which bought his seat as

ambassador to Switzerland, and \$200,000 to the Clinton-Gore campaign, which in Clinton's eyes qualified him for an honored final resting place among noble men.

Ronald Reagan knew the difference between right and wrong, between good and evil. It was black and white with him. Clinton and his people see everything as gray in the dark of the night. They don't make many other distinctions and apparently don't view either morality or ethics as worthy of their ambitions.

This difference is not superficial. The point is that the same situation ethics with regard to patriotic traditions may also impede this president's judgment in questions of national security. Doesn't it seem a bit troubling that the man Americans trust to

protect the nation from enemies foreign and domestic cannot be trusted to be wise or honest in other enterprises of national importance.

The same president who took money from Lawrence also took campaign contributions arranged by John Huang and, although all of that has been pronounced as legal activity by Clinton's attorney general, there is a certain dark irony which persists. Huang, who was made an Assistant Secretary of Commerce by the late Ron Brown, was given 37 top secret briefings by the CIA and afterwards passed information along to the Lippo Group, a Chinese-connected trading organization, as well as directly to the Chinese embassy. The irony is that Huang, who received his top-secret clearance at the personal request of the president himself, may well have provided intelligence that may play a part in future events which could put some patriotic American soldiers into the ground somewhere in the vicinity of where Larry Lawrence was buried. ✕



SOLDIER OF FORTUNE MAGAZINE

Robert K. Brown
EDITOR/PUBLISHER

MANAGING EDITOR Dwight Swift
SENIOR EDITOR Don McLean
TECHNICAL EDITOR Peter G. Kokalis
NATIONAL AFFAIRS EDITOR James L. Pate
ASSISTANT EDITOR Wayne Laugesen
DEPUTY EDITOR Thomas D. Reisinger
CONTRIBUTING EDITOR John Walker
PRODUCTION DIRECTOR Kathleen Allard
ART DIRECTOR Bix Bigler
SPECIAL PROJECTS Alexander McColl

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS

Chief Foreign Correspondent:
Mark H. Milstein

Senior Foreign Correspondents:

Dale B. Cooper • Peter Douglas
Chuck Fremont • Rob Krott • Dr. Tom Marks
Steve Salisbury • Jack Thompson
Maj. Mike Williams • Mike Winchester

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS

Africa Al Venter • Adventure Sports Robin Postell
America Marty Kufus • Aviation Dana Drenkowski
Explosives/Demolitions John Donovan • Forensic Sciences
Richard L. Sherron • Gulf War Veterans Affairs Bob
Newman • Gun Rights Paul Danish • Latin America Hugo
Hartenstein • Military History William Brooks —
William H. Northacker • Outdoor Affairs Galen Geer
Paramedic Operations Dr. John Peters • Skydiving Kitty
Baran • UDTISEAL Larry Bailey • Unconventional
Operations Brig. Gen. Heinie Aderholt (Ret.)
— James P. Monaghan
Vietnam Veterans Affairs Col. Chuck Allen (Ret.)



OMEGA GROUP, LTD

FINANCIAL DIRECTOR Gregg Peterson
BOOKKEEPER Carole Hayden
ACCOUNTANT Jenny Howard
CONSULTANT Zada Johnson

ADVERTISING

ADVERTISING DIRECTOR John Walker

SOF WEB SITE: www.sofmag.com
E-MAIL: editor@sofmag.com

FOR EDITORIAL/ADVERTISING, CALL
303-449-3750

SUBSCRIPTION INQUIRIES CALL,
1-800-877-5207

FOR LIST RENTAL, CALL STATISTICS,
STACIE NESTER: 203-778-8700

IN MEMORIAM

Craig Nunn — Art Director
Lance Motley — Foreign Correspondent
Barry Sadler — Contributing Editor
Robert MacKenzie — Contributing Editor
George Bacon — Foreign Correspondent

SOLDIER OF FORTUNE (USPS 525-810, ISSN 0145-6784), March 1998, Volume 23, Number 3, is published monthly by SOLDIER OF FORTUNE Inc., 5735 Arapahoe Ave., Boulder, CO 80303-1340. Periodicals Postage is paid at Boulder, CO and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to SOLDIER OF FORTUNE, Subscription Department, POB 348, Mt Morris, IL 61054-0348 or call 1-800-877-5207. U.S. and APO-FPO subscription rate for twelve monthly issues \$29.95. Canada add \$10.00/yr. additional postage (includes GST tax registration business number: 12847 6249 RT). All other countries add \$21.00 U.S. FUNDS ONLY. Single Issue Price — U.S.: \$4.95; United Kingdom: £2.60; Canada: \$5.75. PRINTED IN THE USA.

CONTRIBUTORS: Manuscripts, photographs or drawings are submitted at the contributor's own risk. Material should be mailed to Articles Editor, SOLDIER OF FORTUNE, P.O. Box 693, Boulder, CO 80306, and cannot be returned unless accompanied by sufficient postage. Any material accepted is subject to such revision as is necessary to meet the editorial requirements of SOF. All manuscripts must be typed double-spaced. All photographs must be credited and be accurately identified. Payment will be made at rates current at time of publication. Editorial office phone number is 303-449-3750.

Copyright © 1998 by SOLDIER OF FORTUNE Magazine Inc. All Rights Reserved.

NOTICE: *SOLDIER OF FORTUNE* Magazine is a magazine of national and international distribution. There may be products in the magazine of which sale, possession or interstate transportation may be restricted, prohibited or subject to special licensing requirements in your state or nation. Purchasers should consult local law enforcement authorities in their area. All data in this publication, technical or otherwise, are based upon personal experience or individuals using specific tools, products, equipment and components under particular conditions and circumstances, some of which may not be reported in the article and which *Soldier Of Fortune* has not otherwise verified. *Soldier Of Fortune*, its agents, officers and employees disclaim any responsibility for all liability, injuries or damages.



Set Your Sights Higher.

Black Hills .308 Match Ammunition is a few clicks above the rest when you need extreme accuracy.

Our ammunition is made with exacting uniformity and lot to lot repeatability.

Black Hills .308 match Ammunition is now available in 168 grain, boattail match hollowpoint... with or without moly bullet coating (molybdenum disulfide).

When accuracy counts, professionals count on the **Power of Performance!**

For More Information, Call or Write:

BLACK HILLS AMMUNITION

PO BOX 3090 • RAPID CITY, SD 57709-3090

CALL (605) 348-5150 OR FAX (605) 348-9827

VISIT OUR WEB SITE @ <http://www.black-hills.com>



Ammunition

The Power of Performance

BULLETIN BOARD

ONE DOWN...

According to U.S. Immigration officials, former Salvadoran guerrilla commander Pedro Antonio Andrade, who was resettled in the United States despite evidence that he helped plan an attack in which four U.S. Marines and two American businessmen were killed (see "I Pledge Insurgence," May '96), has been deported to El Salvador.

The former terrorist was roused from his New Jersey jail cell in early November, and flown aboard a special Justice Department jet to San Salvador. He was arrested in September 1996, in West New York, NJ, and held for more than a year in the Passaic County Jail in Paterson, until he finally dropped appeals of government deportation orders.

After turning coat on his fellow communist rebels, Andrade became one of the most valuable informers against his fellow comrades, disclosing a huge cache of weapons and internal secrets of the insurgents. The CIA paid more than \$40,000 for his upkeep in El Salvador, and for his move to the United States in 1990.

Andrade's American lawyers noted that "the United States was very aware of how much his life was in jeopardy in El Salvador ... But they just dumped him at the airport." Fearing retribution from both the former comrades he betrayed and the right-wing elements against which he originally fought, Andrade said he planned to seek political asylum in Europe.



Collings Foundation, via Dale B. Cooper

B-17G Flying Fortress "Nine-O-Nine" and B-24 Liberator "All American" fly again thanks to the efforts of the Collings Foundation, River Hill Farm, Stow, MA 01775.

ARMY HUNTS EXTREMISTS

Jane's Defence Weekly reports that the 19,000 personnel at Ft. Lewis, Wash., have undergone inspections for tattoos indicating

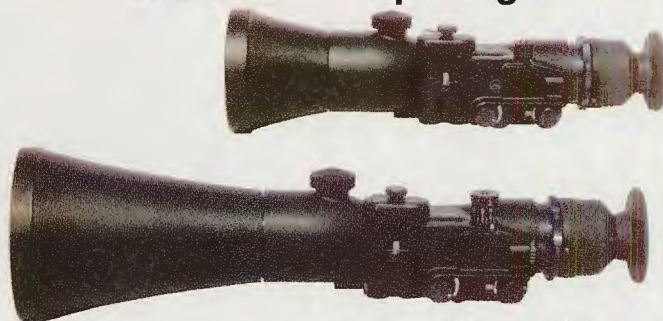
**The Best Night Vision in the World. Period.
Call us to discover why.**

The BEST Goggle



Model 850
US GEN III

The BEST Weaponsights



Aquila 4X and 6X
US GEN III

Visit us at
www.nightvis.com

EXCALIBUR ENTERPRISES

PO BOX 400, FOGELSVILLE, PA 18051-0400

(610) 391-9105 e-mail: xcalibur@ptdprolog.net FAX (610) 391-9220

1-800-797-2849

Made in the USA!

WORLD'S LARGEST STOCKING DISTRIBUTOR OF LITTON AND OTHER HIGH QUALITY NIGHT VISION SYSTEMS

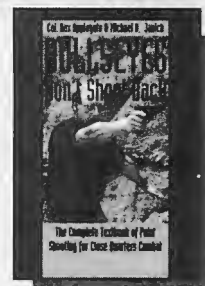
PALADIN PRESS®

BULLSEYES DON'T SHOOT BACK

The Complete Textbook of Point Shooting for Close Quarters Combat

by Col. Rex Applegate and Michael Janich

There is a tremendous difference between shooting methods that work well when you're simply trying to put holes in a target and those that work well when the target is trying to put holes in *you*. Point shooting has proven to be the most practical, easily learned and retainable technique for aiming and shooting a handgun in stressful, life-threatening situations, and this book provides the most convincing case for its adoption as a vital training doctrine by police, military and civilian shooters. It gives clear, step-by-step instruction in point shooting technique and addresses such issues as when to resort to two-handed sighted fire; point shooting with the weak hand, in low light, while on the move and from the draw; point shooting vs. sighted fire methods; and training trips. The final chapter tells how one major police training facility — confronted with the dismal street performance of "modern" techniques — has adopted point shooting with stunning success. 5 1/2 x 8 1/2, softcover, photos, 120 pp. **\$20.00**



THE TRUTH ABOUT HANDGUNS

Exploding the Myths, Hype, and Misinformation
by Duane Thomas

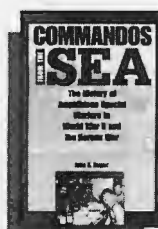
Every gun enthusiast will enjoy reading this lively look at the myths about the Colt .45, the hype surrounding handgun stopping power; the truth about Alvin York's incredible World War I firefight; the answers to the questions "Are revolvers dead?" and "How good is the .40 Smith & Wesson cartridge?"; and much more. 5 1/2 x 8 1/2, softcover, 136 pp. **\$14.00**



CREDIT SECRETS

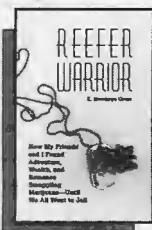
How to Erase Bad Credit
Revised and Updated
by Bob Hammond

This expanded *Credit Secrets* will save you thousands of dollars in fees, finance charges and interest payments as you learn the very latest techniques to get rid of debt once and for all and establish good credit. Discover proven tricks used by lawyers, credit counselors and other pros who charge handsomely for their services. 5 1/2 x 8 1/2, softcover, 136 pp. **\$15.00**



COMMANDOS FROM THE SEA
The History of Amphibious Special Warfare in WW II and the Korean War
by John B. Dwyer

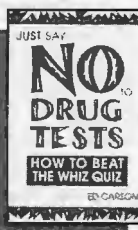
This is the definitive history of America's seaborne commandos. The daring exploits of the OSS' Maritime Unit, Special Mission Group, Underwater Demolition Teams, Phib Recon Marines, Alamo Scouts and many more are finally brought to light in gripping first-person accounts. Includes rare action photographs. 8 1/2 x 11, hardcover, photos, illus., 268 pp. **\$39.95**



REEFER WARRIOR

How My Friends and I Found Adventure, Wealth, and Romance Smuggling Marijuana—Until We All Went to Jail
by K. Hawkeye Gross

The story of how the author went from flying combat missions in Vietnam to smuggling dope by the plane load from Colombia. His amusing reflections of his adventures and misadventures offer a vivid portrayal of the drug-smuggling world of the late 1960s and '70s. 5 1/2 x 8 1/2, hardcover, 368 pp. **\$29.95**



JUST SAY NO TO DRUG TESTS

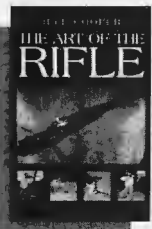
Urinalysis is a blatant violation of human freedom and dignity, and now you can fight back! Ed Carson, who handled drug testing for a large U.S. military base, reveals how the tests are done and how to beat them. He did it successfully for eight years using the exact methods outlined in this book. Find out how to preserve your life-style and keep your job. 5 1/2 x 8 1/2, softcover, 48 pp. **\$12.00**



BEAT THE BILL COLLECTOR

How to Obtain Freedom from Your Debt
by Max Edison

If debt collection agencies are harassing you to settle your unpaid bills, you do not have to put up with their bullying tactics! This book tells you exactly how you can use simple tricks to get them off your back for good or resort to heavy legal firepower if they persist in calling you at work or home. Know your rights! 5 1/2 x 8 1/2, softcover, 80 pp. **\$12.00**



THE ART OF THE RIFLE

by Jeff Cooper

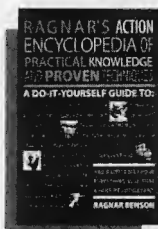
"Riflecraft has been completely ignored since World War II," says Jeff Cooper, America's foremost rifle instructor. To remedy this situation, he took it upon himself to set down the fine art of the rifle before it was lost forever. In his no-holds-barred style, Cooper instructs you in everything you need to know about shooting the rifle, while entertaining you with tales of marksmanship, combat and big-game hunting. 8 1/2 x 11, hardcover, photos, 104 pp. **\$29.95**



THE WHOLE SPY CATALOG

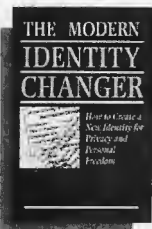
by Lee Lapin

The Whole Spy Catalog shows you exactly how to hire an ex-KGB agent, order a photo of anyone on earth anytime during the last 20 years, get an instant background check on anyone, open a door from 100 feet away, subscribe to an in-house FBI newsletter, "crack" and install the latest electronic surveillance gear and many more tricks to trace, track, surveil and investigate anyone or anything. 8 1/2 x 11, softcover, photos, illus., 448 pp. **\$44.95**



RAGNAR'S ACTION ENCYCLOPEDIA OF PRACTICAL KNOWLEDGE AND PROVEN TECHNIQUES
by Ragnar Benson

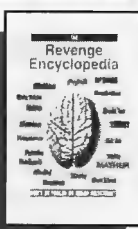
Learn how to trap anything that moves, drop out of the rat race, protect your privacy, elude the bad guys, defend yourself, build weapons, change identities, land a job and live well — as well as a little bit about everything else that might be important. 8 1/2 x 11, softcover, photos, illus., 456 pp. **\$45.00**



THE MODERN IDENTITY CHANGER

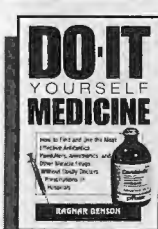
How to Create a New Identity for Privacy and Personal Freedom
by Sheldon Charrett

Finally, here is an all-new instruction book on how to obtain a new identity, produce supporting documents for it and use it safely in today's society. Learn how to get Social Security numbers, driver's licenses and more. For academic study only. 5 1/2 x 8 1/2, softcover, illus., 152 pp. **\$20.00**



THE REVENGE ENCYCLOPEDIA

This is the mother of all revenge books! You'd have to buy more than 25 books to get all the wit and wisdom contained in this compilation from the best of Paladin's revenge books. Don't be fooled by cheap imitators that claim to know how to get even. Paladin is still your revenge source when you need to even the score with nosy neighbors, bungling bureaucrats, snarly clerks or other pests. For entertainment purposes only. 8 1/2 x 11, softcover, 120 pp. **\$15.00**



DO-IT-YOURSELF MEDICINE
How to Find and Use the Most Effective Antibiotics, Painkillers, Anesthetics, and Other Miracle Drugs... Without Costly Doctors' Prescriptions or Hospitals
by Ragnar Benson

Ragnar gives you precise instructions for securing and using the very latest drugs and supplies from animal health centers, foreign pharmacies, mail order suppliers, military dispensaries and other unusual sources. 5 1/2 x 8 1/2, softcover, photos, illus., 128 pp. **\$20.00**

OTHER FASCINATING TITLES

Guerrillas in the Mist: A Battlefield Guide to Clandestine Warfare ... \$20.00	Don't Get Mad — Get Even ... \$22.95
Advanced Fugitive ... \$15.00	Fighting with Firearms (video) ... \$29.95
How to Get Anything on Anybody ... \$30.00	Guge Gongji: Seven Primary Targets to Take Anyone Out of a Fight ... \$15.00
Bail Enforcer: The Advanced Bounty Hunter ... \$16.95	Bounty Hunter ... \$12.00
Reborn in the U.S.A. ... \$16.00	SOG: The Secret Wars of America's Commandos in Vietnam ... \$25.00
How to Beat the Credit Bureaus ... \$12.00	Gunsite Tactical Pistol 1 (video) ... \$29.95
I.D. by Mail ... \$19.95	Gunsite Tactical Shotgun 1 (video) ... \$29.95
Credit: the Cutting Edge ... \$25.00	Get Even ... \$19.95
Breath of Death: The Blowgun Video ... \$29.95	

MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE — DEALER INQUIRIES INVITED
PALADIN PRESS · P.O. BOX 1307 · BOULDER, CO 80306 · (303) 443-7250
FAX (303) 442-8741 · E-mail service@paladin-press.com
Videotapes are nonreturnable. Defective tapes will be replaced.

Visit our Web site at www.paladin-press.com



PALADIN PRESS®
P.O. BOX 1307-8CS
BOULDER, CO 80306



CREDIT CARD ORDERS CALL TOLL FREE
1-800-392-2400, USA AND CANADA
CALL 24 HOURS A DAY, 7 DAYS A WEEK. SEND \$2.00 FOR
80-PAGE CATALOG OF OVER 850 TITLES (FREE WITH ORDER).

PLEASE SEND ME THE FOLLOWING TITLES:

RESPONSE CODE: 8CS

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____
STATE _____ ZIP _____

VISA MASTERCARD
 DISCOVER CHECK / MONEY ORDER
CARD# _____
EXP. _____

NAME _____ SUBTOTAL _____
ADDRESS _____ PLEASE INCLUDE \$ 5.00
CITY _____ POSTAGE & HANDLING
STATE _____ ZIP _____ PLEASE ALLOW 2-4 WEEKS FOR DELIVERY
TOTAL _____

CALL US TOLLFREE AT 1-800-392-2400

BIG • BAD • BEAUTIFUL

THE
VAQUERO
GRANDE™

BIG

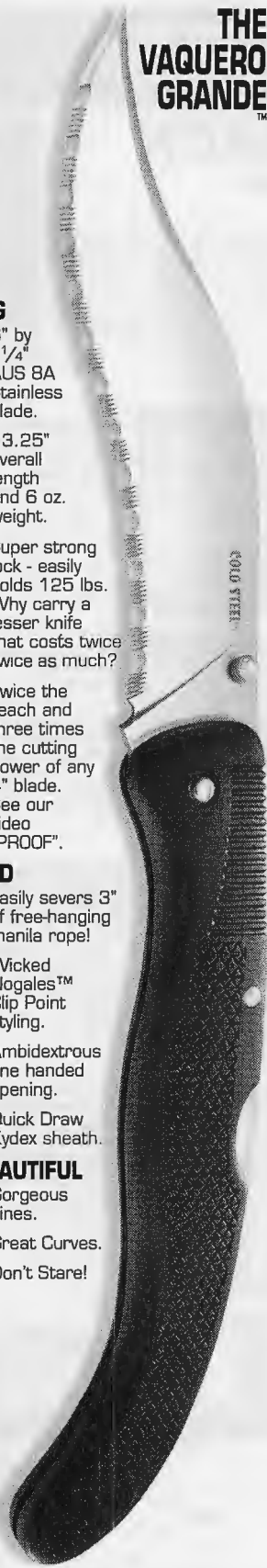
- 6" by 1 1/4" AUS 8A Stainless blade.
- 13.25" overall length and 6 oz. weight.
- Super strong lock - easily holds 125 lbs. Why carry a lesser knife that costs twice as much?
- Twice the reach and three times the cutting power of any 4" blade. See our video "PROOF".

BAD

- Easily severs 3" of free-hanging manila rope!
- Wicked Nogales™ Clip Point styling.
- Ambidextrous one handed opening.
- Quick Draw Kydex sheath.

BEAUTIFUL

- Gorgeous Lines.
- Great Curves.
- Don't Stare!



membership in extremist groups. You know — like a globe and anchor.

NEW SUPPORT FOR SUDANESE Gs

The U.S. Government, which considers Sudan to be a terrorist-supporting state because of its involvement in the World Trade Center bombing and the attempted assassination of Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak, has proposed additional economic sanctions, including nixing loans, transactions and business deals between Sudan and U.S. companies.

Following a visit to Washington by Sudanese opposition leader Sadiq al-Mahdi, deposed in the 1989 Islamist coup that replaced the current despotic regime of Omar Hassan al-Bashir, congress is currently working on measures to increase economic and diplomatic pressure on Sudan. One possible intent of such pressure may be aiding al-Mahdi, who cited Laurent Kabila's ouster of Mobutu Sese-Seko in Zaire as a precedent for similar action in Sudan.

Mobutu's fall may also hold additional implications for Sudan and special significance for Sudanese guerrillas: President Yoweri Museveni of Uganda has formed a new alliance with Col. John Garang, chairman of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army. Garang, who also commands the armed forces of the National Democratic Alliance (an umbrella organization of Sudanese insurgent groups) controls the Sudanese border regions along the Ugandan and Congolese frontiers. Garang may find new support from Kabila, and since Khartoum currently supports the Lord's Resistance Army in Northern Uganda, he may receive aid from Museveni as well.

— Rob Krott

VITA'S SAFETY EDICT BOMBS WITH ATF EXPERTS

The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms has long been recognized for its superior expertise in arson- and explosives-investigations. But eight of BATF's top bomb experts have been pulled off the teaching circuit until May 1998, due to a fit of pique by Andrew L. Vita, the BATF's associate director for law enforcement.

Last spring, Vita's office sent out a memo to bomb techs that outlined a new safety standard being mandated by headquarters. Henceforth, said the proclamation, BATF bomb techs responding to a suspected explosive device, must stand off for at least 90 minutes before trying to inspect or disarm it.

"Vita was trying to set a new safety standard, but it was a dumb one," one agent grouched. "The bomb guys already have an assignment that could get them killed — and Vita's new safety rule would make them look like fools in the bargain. You know [that] while they're sitting back, other agencies will try to deal with the device. Waiting is an unaffordable luxury."

It's another example, a second agent said, of "the suits in headquarters who've

JANUARY 1st

The Year 2000

Are you prepared?

The new millennium is less than 24 months away. Various predictions inform us that many problems and changes may happen when the year 2000 arrives... "The Y2K Problem" A.K.A. "The Millennium Bug." Large mainframe computers that run government agencies, government programs, banking systems, retirement programs, stocks, etc. may shut down. In other words, the "global economy." The problem is serious and the "fix" is loosing ground. What happens if these computer systems shut down because of a calendar/clock system coding 2000 as "00"? (See Newsweek, June 2, 1997: "The Day The World Crashes". The Social Security Administration has been working on the problem since 1991 and "expect" to be done December 31, 1998. Most other government agencies and the Federal Reserve have just now begun to address the problem. For more information <http://www.stortite.com>

Now is the time to "quietly" prepare while supplies are still available — before our world as we know it shuts down.

Food being a basic necessity will be in huge demand. Start preparing today.

STOR-TITE CONTAINERS

The perfect container for food storage - beans, rice, corn, wheat and other foods. Stor-Tite containers are 5 gal. reusable pails with screw-on/off lids. No tools needed! Each lid contains a soft o-ring sealing in contents with an air-tight seal and the patented life latch positively locks the lid. No metal parts - can be used to cache valuables.



Made from H.D.P.E. (plastic) puncture resistant with .090" wall thickness.

\$7⁹⁵
ea.

Plus Shipping

NOW AVAILABLE!

STOR-TITE'S new low cost, easy-to-use Nitrogen/C02 Storage System. **\$69⁹⁵**

Including Freight

Order Today!

(541) 476-4977

STOR-TITE CONTAINERS

124 N.E. Morgan Lane, Grants Pass, OR 97526
<http://www.stortite.com> • Fax: (541) 476-4776

COLD STEEL

2128-D Knoll Drive, Ventura, CA 93003

Call for a FREE 40 page catalog

Or send \$5 for our 70 min. video, "PROOF"

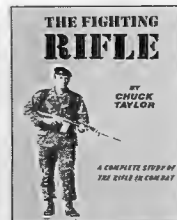
1-800-255-4716

Find Courage...
honor, sacrifice and the drama of battle
Join **THE MILITARY BOOK CLUB®** today!

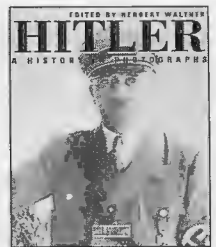
© NATIONAL ARCHIVES



1164+ \$21.95

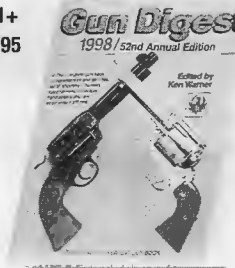


0166+ \$25.00



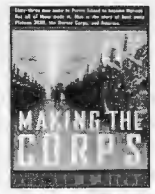
1735 \$21.95x

0471+ \$24.95

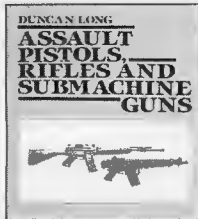


0240+ \$22.95

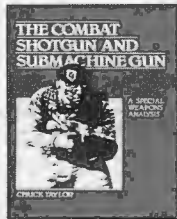
TAKE **4 FOR 98¢** with membership



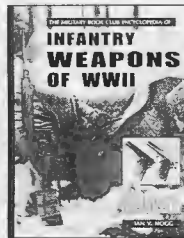
1768 \$24.00



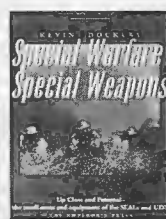
4085 \$21.95



0182 \$19.95



2667 \$24.95



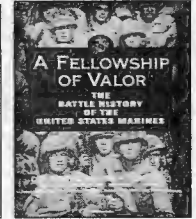
4135 \$29.95



0661-9999* \$29.95



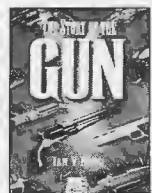
1685 \$19.95



0273 \$35.00



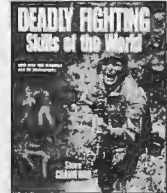
4309 \$27.95



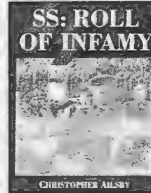
3624 \$24.95



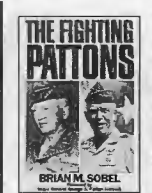
3954 \$24.95



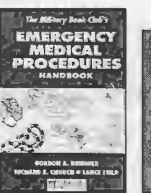
0117+ \$17.95x



1263 \$24.95



0869 \$49.95



1305 \$12.95x



0729 \$22.95



4127 \$11.95x



0562 \$22.95



0307+ \$16.95



0679 \$19.95x



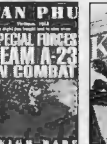
0083 \$27.50



0091 \$24.95



4143 \$25.00



1222 \$18.95x



0372 \$21.95



1040 \$23.00



3012 \$39.00



1776 \$24.95



3210 \$9.95x

7 REASONS TO JOIN NOW: 1. Joining is easy. Start with 4 books for 98¢. Your bill (including shipping and handling) will come when membership is confirmed. 2. Your satisfaction is guaranteed. If you're not happy with your 4 books, return them within 10 days at our expense. Your membership will be canceled; you'll owe nothing. 3. Save up to 40% off publishers' hardcover edition prices. Just pick at least 4 more books at our regular low prices during your membership. Take up to 2 years! Then you may resign any time. 4. Extra bonus! Take a 5th book now for \$4.99, plus shipping and handling, and reduce your membership agreement to only 3 books. 5. A FREE Club Magazine comes to you up to 17 times a year. Each reviews the Featured Book Selections plus dozens of alternate books. Some are exclusive Club editions you won't find anywhere else. Every book we offer is a high-quality, full-text edition, sometimes altered in size to fit special presses. Look for up to 2 special issues a year with super selections and more discounts. 6. Ordering is risk-free. Featured Book Selections are sent to you automatically. To cancel—or order other books—simply mail in your Member Reply Form by the marked date. Shipping and handling (plus sales tax, where applicable) is added to each order. You'll always have 10 days to decide. If your Member Reply Form is late and unwanted books arrive, please return them at our expense. 7. Easy ordering through the mail or via our Web site: www.militarybookclub.com.

Prices shown were current at press time. Prices shown are for publishers' hardcover editions. Club hardcover editions save you up to 40%.

* Counts as 2 choices + Softcover ++ Fiction
x Special edition exclusively for Club members



MAIL TO: The Military Book Club
6550 East 30th Street
P.O. Box 6357
Indianapolis, IN
46206-6357

Please write book numbers here:

YES! Please enroll me in *The Military Book Club* according to the risk-free membership plan described in this ad. Send me the 4 BOOKS I've indicated. Bill me just 98¢, plus shipping and handling.

SAVE EVEN MORE! Send me this book now and reduce my commitment to 3 books. Bill me an added \$4.99, plus shipping and handling. (Books that count as 2 choices are not eligible.)

(write book number)

NT387			96

Mr./Mrs. _____
Miss/Ms. _____ (please print)
Address _____ Apt. _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Telephone, please (_____) _____
Members accepted in U.S.A. only. Sales tax added where applicable. We reserve the right to reject any application.

A645 SOF 3/98



During 1998, Military Parachuting Tours International (MPTI) will be jumping in Holland (May), Estonia-Latvia (August), Peru (fall), South Africa/Malawi (June). MPTI-Canada is coordinating a jump in Cuba for April. Here, happy jumpers pose after a jump in Holland; MPTI director and SOF Senior Foreign Correspondent Rob Krott is second from left, kneeling. For more info on MPTI programs, write Box 1573, Olean, NY 14760.

never had to kick down a door or disarm a bomb, trying to tell the guys on the street on how to do their jobs. The only bombs they deal with at headquarters are public relations bombs. If bad press were gunpowder, the headquarters weenies would've been dead a long time ago."

Eight of the BATF's top bomb technicians wrote a joint letter to Vita outlining why his new safety standard was a bad idea, and urged that it be rescinded. Irked that they would presume to question the wisdom of his high and mighty office, Vita issued a supposedly secret punitive memo, taking the eight upstarts off the teaching circuit for a year, thereby denying other agents of the benefit of instruction by BATF's best bomb techs.

Questioned about the wisdom of this decision, Vita threw caution to the wind: In a paroxysmal headquarters snit that could have wrin-

kled his suit or broken one of his well-manicured nails, Vita pounded his fist on the desk, said he didn't want to hear any more discussion on the subject and "I better not read about this in *Soldier Of Fortune* magazine."
— James L. Pate

WHITE STAR

To: Niawen From: LTC Brown

We are continuing to research the subject you address in your correspondence dated 25 November. We want to initiate contact and would appreciate more recent material than that forwarded as of last mail drop.

AUDIE MURPHY STAMP

There is a petition currently underway on the internet to honor America's most decorated World War II combat soldier, and MOH recipient, with a commemorative stamp. If interested in joining this effort, visit the Audie Murphy website at <http://www.sagelink.Net/~rrodgers>.

LOVE A DUCK

Federal charges, with a maximum penalty of \$5,000 fine or six months in jail, have been filed against Phoenix, Ariz., resident Jeffrey Kuan who was observed pelting a duck in a central Phoenix canal with rocks until it finally succumbed. An initial animal-cruelty charge was dropped because it did not fit the incident, so the feds stepped in with a charge of unlawfully taking a migratory game bird out of season.

SECOND SECOND AMENDMENT

"A well-regulated population being necessary to the security of a police state, the right of the Government to keep and destroy arms shall not be infringed." ✕

BUSHMASTER

We build them only one way - the right way - because we build weapons under contract for U.S. Military Forces and Government Agencies, and for governments all over the world. Bushmaster manufactures to meet - **or exceed** - U. S. Gov't. Military Specifications - the toughest criteria. Our heavy match barrels are hard chrome lined. Hard anodize finished, aircraft quality, 7075T6 aluminum forgings are used to make the strongest, most corrosion resistant receivers. All latest Mil. Spec. design advances are incorporated into any of our parts to guarantee you a weapon of quality, accuracy and durability. Whether you want a complete rifle, an M203 Grenade Launcher, one of our many different barrel configurations, or any part or accessory for the AR15/M16 family of weapons, remember **BUSHMASTER**.

A SUPERIOR WEAPON...

AT A COMPETITIVE PRICE!

MADE WITH PRIDE

IN THE U.S.A.

For orders or our 80 page catalog, call...

1-800-998-SWAT

Our new line for Customer Service is

1-800 883-6229

Bushmaster Firearms, Inc. / Quality Parts Co.
P.O. Box 1479 • 999 Roosevelt Trail • Windham, ME 04062
E-mail: Bushmaster@maine.com • On the Internet at: <http://www.bushmaster.com>

World-Class Handgun Champion And SWAT Trainer Reveals Little-Known Shooting Secrets That Will Save Your Life If You Ever Use Your Gun In Self-Defense!

If you own or carry a handgun for self-defense,
this is probably going to be the most important letter you've ever read!

By Ben Cooley, SWAT, Hostage Rescue, and Anti-Terrorist Team Trainer; World Champion Competition Shooter

Dear Friend,

It's true! If there's even the slightest possibility that you'll have to use your gun some day for self-defense, then this is going to be the most important letter you've ever read. I'm not kidding.

So please do yourself a favor: Go some place quiet, close the door, and tell everyone not to disturb you for the next 5 or 10 minutes.

Done? Good. I'm only asking you to do this because I want you to carefully absorb and consider what I'm about to share with you. It really could save your life someday.

So let me begin. First of all...

I Have Some Good News And Some Bad News

The good news is, you're very smart if you own AND CARRY a handgun for self-defense — because today, the gun is the “martial arts” of the 21st Century. All the criminals and gang-bangers are carrying. If you're not...

You're At A Serious Disadvantage!

But that's not the bad news. No. The bad news is, even if you carry, chances are you don't know how to use your gun properly in a real life-or-death confrontation!

I don't mean to offend you. I'm only saying this for your own good. But I know what I'm talking about. I've trained with SWAT teams, hostage rescue teams, and anti-terrorist teams for a living. I'm also a world champion handgun shooter at the Soldier of Fortune competition and other high-level competitive events. (More on that later.)

So please believe me when I tell you that there's a lot more to combat shooting than sight-alignment, target identification, stance, and trigger pull. A lot more!

In fact, proper gun use in combat doesn't have much to do with the “mechanical” aspects of shooting at all. Not at all! All your training at the range shooting paper targets will do you no good if you're missing the key element I'm going to explain in this letter, and which you will learn on my new video tape training course, “The Fighting Mindset”.

You see, what's more important in combat

is what's going on in your head — and how you convey that in your words, your physical movements, your attitude toward your adversary, and your willingness to shoot him.

Hollywood Will Get You Killed!

Tragically, almost everyone alive today learns their so-called “fighting skills” from what they see on TV and in the movies. I say “tragically” because everything you see on TV and film is absolutely the opposite of what you should do in a real-life armed confrontation!

And yes, I know it's almost “heresy” to say it, but...

Even “Dirty Harry” Would Get His Head Blown Off If He Tried Those Stunts In Real Life!

How do I know? And who am I to be attacking the revered Inspector Callahan?

My name is Bennie Cooley. As I mentioned a moment ago, I'm a professional SWAT Team trainer. I have over 13 years of experience in Counter-Terrorism, Hostage Rescue, and SWAT training. I've seen things that would make your blood run cold.

Currently, I'm a member of an Elite Federal Tactics Team under the direct control of the Federal Government, (protecting “sensitive” installations I can't even reveal). I have over 14 years of intense hands-on experience in counter-terrorism and SWAT training — I've cross-trained with Specialized Military Units shrouded in secrecy, the FBI, and other “in deep” operations I'm not “security cleared” to even speak about.

And when I'm not working with elite soldiers, I travel around the country as one of the top competitive handgun shooters in America. For instance...

- I'm a 2-time Soldier Of Fortune 3-Gun World Champion...
- I recently won the 1996 USPSA 3-Gun Limited National Championship...
- I'm the winner of 7 separate State and Regional Gun Championships...
- And from 1991-92, I was the Championship Team Leader at the IPSC National

Championship in SWAT, Georgia.

I'm telling you all this not to brag, but to show you that when it comes to shooting (and especially combat shooting), I know what I'm talking about, plain and simple...

And Now I Can Teach It To You!

The reason I'm writing to you today is because I've recently completed a life-long dream of mine: To take everything I know about combat shooting and teach it to the average, hard-working American guy who carries a gun for self-defense and the protection of his home and family.

And these days, let's face it...you have to carry. Crime is so out of control that you can't even take your children to the local park without being in fear of some gang-bangers coming in and shooting innocent people. It happened just recently in a small town in Central California. Two people dead, one little girl wounded because a 15-year-old gang member started squeezing off rounds at someone he didn't like!

In another incident I saw on the news, an elderly man was taking pictures of his grandchildren at a playground. Two thugs walked up to him, demanded he give them the camera, and proceeded to beat the hell out of him — hospitalizing him with severe head injuries!

I'm sure you see plenty of this on the news wherever you live. It's everywhere — not just in the big cities anymore.

It's Enough To Turn A Regular Guy Into A Raging Vigilante!

No, I'm not suggesting you do that. But I am saying that your best choice is to protect yourself. The police can't protect you anymore. Just ask them!

And these days, the gun is the martial arts of the 21st Century. Don't let anybody tell you that you're “over-reacting” if you carry a gun. It's the smartest thing you could ever do.

But to be really smart, you have to know how to properly use that gun in a real-life hostile confrontation. And as I said, unless you've already received special training from someone

like me, chances are you're going to act the way you see "Hollywood cops" move around and shoot their guns on TV and film.

And if you do that...

You Might As Well Call The Mortuary And Make Your Funeral Arrangements Now!!!

I'm not kidding. Unless you've already been trained, chances are you don't know how to act and react in a hostile life-or-death confrontation with an armed aggressor.

The truth is, there are some very special skills you need to know. They don't come naturally. In fact, what comes "naturally" is what will get you killed. You actually have to train yourself to overcome your natural instincts, fears, hesitancy, desire to escape, etc.

In all honesty, there's nothing "magical" about these skills. They all make perfect sense. But unless you're trained by an expert, you'll probably never figure them out on your own.

That's why I'm so eager to share my new training videos with you. I've just completed a 3-tape, 4 1/2-hour video "training course" where I explain everything you need to know to survive and fight successfully in virtually any hostile confrontation you find yourself in.

Taking the exact same skills I teach to SWAT teams, hostage rescue teams, and the anti-terrorist units of elite branches of our government, I give you a no-holds-barred "crash course" in the physical and mental aspects of combat shooting. I call it...

"The Fighting Mindset"

You see, what really makes the difference in a lethal struggle is your mindset. If you don't have the emotional structure to be able to fight in a lethal confrontation, you're going to lose. That's the honest truth.

No matter how big your gun is... no matter how many rounds it holds... no matter how much money you had to pay for it or how accurate it is, you need this specialized training.

And you can't get it anywhere else that I know of, because this is the first video of its kind where someone with my background comes right out and "tells it like it is" on tape so you can know what I and SWAT teams across America know about combat shooting.

What Will You Learn?

Plenty. More than you could ever imagine. More than I could even describe in this letter. But let me give you some of the more important highlights...

First, I start off with Equipment Selection. You'll be amazed that the vast majority of expensive, "sophisticated" guns on the market today are actually bad for you in combat. They'll cost you valuable reaction time!

And you'll discover what I regard as the single most effective weapon to use, bar none. It's used by the best combat shooters in the world, as well as by hostage rescue teams, Delta Force, SEAL Team Six, the LAPD and Denver SWAT teams...you name it. Anybody who knows what they're doing uses this type

of gun. So should you.

- I give you the most important rule to remember in a gunfight.
- Should you carry a revolver instead of a semi-auto? I give you the general rule on how to make this crucial decision.
- You'll learn why you should be able to function your weapon with only one hand. It shouldn't take two.
- I explain what a good holster should and should not have. Officers and soldiers have gotten killed because they had the wrong equipment. I give you 7 "MUSTS" for any holster and magazine pouch you buy. This information alone is extremely valuable.
- There are no one-second "quick-draws" on the street. I show you what to do instead.
- "Intermediate Force" weapons such as batons: Do's and don't's to consider.
- If you shoot a motivated opponent in the heart, he can still survive for 10-15 seconds and fight you — even kill you! I thoroughly explain what to do about that!
- The best, most effective kind of tactical flashlight to use — and why it's so important to have one.
- The right way to hold your flashlight and your gun at the same time. Other ways are simply not effective. They're too hard to do, and they cause you to waste too much time getting your sights aligned on the target. But the method I teach you lets you illuminate your target and keep full control of your gun at the same time. This one little technique alone could save your life in a night fight.
- I even show you the right kind of ear protection to use during practice and for real-life situations in your home. You might think earmuffs don't matter, but these are especially important to have when an intruder is in your home and you have to investigate the noises you hear.

As you'll see when you watch my video, I have a very important rule when it comes to equipment: Don't rely strictly on your equipment! The most important weapon you have — and indeed, the most dangerous weapon you have — is right between your ears. If you don't learn how to use that in a real fight, you can have every gadget in the world and you're still going to lose.

That's why, throughout the rest of the video training course, I meticulously explain everything you need to know to overcome any mistakes or misconceptions you're now carrying around in your head.

I also train you in the proven techniques of gun-retention and gun take-away methods.

For instance, if someone tries to take your gun away from you, I show you an unbeatable way to keep control of the gun. It surprises the hell out of the person attacking you. Many other methods currently taught to people are extremely dangerous and ineffective. But with this simple method, you will win every time you use it. You can even use it if someone attacks you with a knife.

I also show you how to take their gun away

— even if they're holding it in your back or if they have you kneeling on the ground, "gangland execution"-style!

Plus...

- Even though criminals look for victims instead of opponents, sometimes it's smarter to look like a victim! I show you how to do this and fool your adversary so you can take his gun away from him before he even knows what hit him!
- To help you become better at shooting, I show you how to master the details — even the "small" stuff such as a proper grip. I show you a "natural" way to grip the gun that automatically increases your accuracy without any effort on your part!
- I teach you how to keep from accidentally putting the gun on "safe" when you're under pressure in a gunfight! (It happens more often than you think — and it has cost a lot of people their lives!)
- The tactical reload: Proper techniques that allow you to safely and reliably change magazines under pressure without skipping a beat.
- Action vs. Reaction: It takes the human brain two-tenths of a second to process the information and react in response to someone else's action. I teach you how to use this "natural law" to your advantage in any hostile situation.
- Most criminals travel in pairs. Here's how to take this fact into account when attacking the first one.
- In any type of conflict, your mind will operate at "light speed" beyond your physical capability. I teach how to make sure this doesn't work against you in a real fight.
- How to go from fear to controlled anger in your response to a hostile threat.
- How to train your subconscious mind to act properly under the pressure of a surprise attack.
- How to get your enemy to immediately do things for you that he doesn't even know he's doing. You'll use his human nature against him!

This is all good stuff. But one of the most crucial things you'll learn from this video training course is...

The Vital Importance of the Reactionary Gap!

Here's what it means: The average person can travel 14 feet in one second, and yet it takes a second and a half for you to react to their initial action. I show you how to train with this lethal "law of nature" in mind.

For instance, you might think that the guy with the knife in his hand is far enough away from you that you'll get your gun out in time to shoot him while he's running toward you. Think again! On this tape, you'll witness a dramatic demonstration of the eye-opening reality of "the reactionary gap".

And since everybody's reactionary gap is different, I tell you how to know what yours is!

From here we move into...

The Blood-Chilling Realities Of Room-Clearing!

And yes, it is blood-chilling. The hardest thing we ever have to do in a hostage-rescue operation is walk up to that front door, ready to go into action. No one wears a cape in our business. We're all human. We all want to live to see our families, or see the next day. So what we do for a living — coming up against bad guys who want to kill us — requires that we damn well better know what we're doing!

Here Are Some Of The Key Things I Teach You

- **NOISE:** What to listen for before you enter a room — and what to do when you don't hear anything. (WARNING: In this case, silence can be deadly!)
- How to "pie" a room — the one right way, and several wrong ways that would get you killed.
- What to do once you see the intruder in your home. How to engage him properly and still protect yourself against a "surprise" threat from his partner.
- The truth about "double-tapping": Should you or shouldn't you fire two shots at each person?

In one segment, I actually shoot the camera in order to demonstrate the proper technique and effectiveness of the room-clearing methods I teach you!

Now, some of these techniques are "obvious." But most are what we call "counter-intuitive." That means they're the opposite of what you *think* you should do.

Further along in the course, I devote a considerable amount of time to teaching you...

The All-Important Rules Of Action Vs. Reaction!

In this fascinating section, you'll get to see a studly, 6' 4", 240-lb. asskicker turn into a quivering tower of jello as I come into the room in a simulated attack that dramatically demonstrates how you should employ the very same methods I teach you on this life-saving video.

You'll also see a 3-man test that demonstrates the proper use of my techniques: 3 "bad guys" are standing together on the street, the way gang-bangers do. One of them has a gun. How do you deal with them? It makes all the difference in the world — whether you live or die. Watch this segment over and over again and ingrain it into your subconscious, and practice it with friends.

You'll also receive a "crash course" on the laws regarding the use of deadly force by civilians, such as...

How To Acquire The Survival Mindset!

Basically, you're in a survival situation right now.

That's how bad crime has become in our

society today. You have to *think about survival* virtually every hour of every day, whether you like it or not. That means you have to prepare yourself for any possibility. Unfortunately, nobody is going to come up and tap you on the shoulder and say, "Hey, two weeks from now, there's going to be a guy down at the convenience store and he's going to pull a gun on you and try to shoot you." Or "He's going to break into your car and try to rape your wife."

If you don't start preparing for these things today — both mentally and physically — then you're losing already. Your attitude is too passive, and it will get you killed. So on my video, I teach you...

- How to obtain "the survival mindset" that will enable you to act and react properly when the shit hits the fan.
- Two lethal attitudes that destroy the survival mindset. How to keep yourself from falling victim to them.
- The number one thing you have to do to win any fight.
- How to react properly to pain and not let it defeat you.
- Once the "losing" mindset has set in during a bad situation, you cannot reverse it. Here's how to prevent it from taking hold in the first place.

I'll show you things you're doing with your gun and with your physical movements that directly sabotage your chances for survival during a hostile encounter. You're doing them and don't even know it, because it's human nature.

You must learn what these are, understand them, and then purposefully avoid them in training so you don't commit these fatal mistakes in real life.

That's what my video course is all about. I've put virtually everything I know into it to make you a highly-competent individual in the area of armed self-defense.

For instance, I also train you in...

The Highest-Level Skills Of Tactical Survival!

- How to be alert to your environment at all times without being paranoid. I explain the military's "color code" system which you can use in your everyday life for optimum security and self-reliance.
- The most important thing to pay attention to when observing a stranger and something doesn't "feel" right.
- How to tell if someone is packing a gun.
- The proper psychological and physical response to the threat of violence.
- Why you should ALWAYS "draw a line" for your adversary to cross.
- **FACT:** Criminals will normally attack you first. They have the initial surprise. But I show you 3 ways to surprise them and re-gain the tactical surprise.

Get this straight: Nobody's "super-human" — not the criminals, not SWAT teams...no one! We're all subject to human nature. Most people unknowingly allow it to be used against them. But once you watch these tapes, you will

understand where the "pitfalls" are — and how to use human nature (yours and your enemy's) to your advantage.

You Get To "Attend" One Of My Rare Training Courses - Free!

Finally, for the advanced Room-Clearing section of the course, you'll be taken inside one of my rare Training Courses for civilians.

People just like you paid thousands of dollars to attend the Training Course that you're going to see on this video. But you get to "be there" for a fraction of what it cost them.

You'll see the students going through exactly what I teach on the tapes. You'll learn from their mistakes. You'll see me teaching them, which is the next best thing to being there yourself and going through the course.

You'll see me going through the drills, showing the exact right way to do the room-clearing techniques I teach you, including...

- The best way to secure your child's room in your house.
- How to use cover and concealment in your house — and how to assess your house and know the difference. What you can rely on, and what you can't.
- The most fatal mistake people make (thanks to TV and movies) when entering a room with a gun.
- Why SWAT teams, hostage rescue teams, and anti-terrorist soldiers wear ski masks — and how to use this fact to your advantage.
- What cops are required by law to say to a suspect — but you AREN'T! Once again, TV and movies teach you the wrong thing. If you do it in real life, call the mortuary.
- The right way to move when confronting someone if you've got a gun in your hand. Most people do it all wrong, and they'll get killed because of it.

As part of the Room-Clearing session, I also give you in-depth training on...

The Do's And Dont's Of Doorway Entries!

Let's say you come home late at night and you think someone's inside your home who's not supposed to be there. What do you do? I tell you the surprising answer on Tape 3.

- I show you how to properly open a door if you have to enter with your gun. Most people make several critical mistakes because of TV and movies. But I show you the way I train SWAT teams and police officers to enter the room to gain the maximum advantage over anyone who's inside, and get immediate control over the situation.
- What to do if someone grabs your gun. This simple technique will enable you to keep control of the gun, fire two shots at your attacker, and then finish him off!
- The pitfalls of entering a room slowly.
- The legal aspects of who you can and cannot shoot, when, where, and why. The bottom line is that you will be in control

of the entire situation, from beginning to end. And that's what it's all about.

Listen To What Experts Say About This Top-Level Training

How good is the training you'll get from these video tapes? Here are some comments from respected individuals whose lives depend on proper training...

"Ben Cooley's ideas and teachings are down to earth and they make sense. This stuff works in the real world. Since taking Ben's course, I have improved my handling of firearms on the range and on the job. I am a firearms instructor, and I try to impart Ben's techniques and philosophy to the officers I teach. I highly recommend The Fighting Mindset to civilian and professional alike."

— Gary Clark • Police Officer and Investigator • California

"I've seen almost everything in police tactical training, and not a lot of things impressed me — until Ben Cooley came along. I was very impressed and saw a lot of new techniques and ideas. Ben's ideas are groundbreaking, new, and unique, and he always gives the reasons behind them! By the second day of training, my tactical team was inspired and transformed, and returned to the job more confident and aware."

— Jerry Lites • Police Officer and Leader of Special Response Team • Sebastopol, California

"I've been a police officer for 32 years, and I have been through a lot of courses. None of these have compared with Ben Cooley's course on The Fighting Mindset. Learning these techniques could save your life in many life-threatening situations. It already has for me!"

— Steve Abbott • Police Sergeant and Rangemaster • Visalia, California

"I found that Ben Cooley's course dealt with real-life situations in a practical manner. His teaching deals with the brutal realities of confrontation scenarios and house searches. It has given our

SWAT team valuable and proven techniques that work for real and save lives. I can't recommend this course enough!"

— Daryl Smith • Police Officer and SWAT Team Leader • Fayetteville, North Carolina

"Many instructors are knowledgeable and competent, but Ben Cooley truly knows how to communicate and inspire. Ben is one of the top shooters and teachers in the country, and he can talk to novices and professionals alike. What I've learned from Ben — especially the firearms retention drills — has stuck with me. The aggressive stance and shooting on the move are very state of the art."

— Jim Wall • IPSC Shooter • Parma, Idaho

"The biggest change Ben Cooley internalizes in people is that the mind is the best and foremost weapon. A lot of courses tell you that if you have certain tools, you'll win. Ben comes around from the other side and shows you that your mindset makes all the difference. You'll learn to be in charge of the situation from the beginning. Nobody comes close to teaching what Ben Cooley teaches!"

— Mike Voight • Professional Shooter and Teacher • Mesa, Arizona

With statements like those, I hope you will give my new video training course, The Fighting Mindset, an honest try.

It's 3 tapes, 6-hours+ long, and it's available normally for \$129.97 plus \$9.65 shipping and handling (total: 139.62). But for this special one-time introductory offer to Soldier of Fortune readers we're offering the complete set, all three videos, for only \$97. That's over \$30 OFF! (This offer will not be repeated).

No doubt you've spent several hundred, even thousands of dollars on your weapons and equipment. Doesn't it make sense to invest a little bit and get the training that will make those weapons pay off in real life? It's a small price to pay for saving your life.

Even so, you take no risk when you order because of...

My 100% Money-Back Guarantee Of Satisfaction

When I send you these tapes, I want you to watch them over and over until the things I teach you become second-nature to you.

I think you're going to be thrilled with what you learn.

But if for some reason you're not, I don't expect you to pay for them. In fact, you can take up to 90 days to decide if what I teach you is "the real thing" or not.

Train with these techniques. Practice them and see how they feel. If you don't believe they're worth many times the price you've paid for the course, you can return the tapes within 90 days and I'll send you a complete refund of every penny you paid.

I can't be any fairer than that. I want you to be completely satisfied, or you don't pay.

So frankly, you have nothing to lose by giving this course a try. Place your order today by calling TOLL-FREE, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week...

1-800-899-8153

Ask for Dept. BC-34

Use your credit card for faster service. Or, fill out the priority Order Form below and mail it in today.

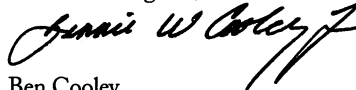
Your tapes will be shipped out to you within a few days, and I urge you to start watching them as soon as they arrive. You never know when you're going to have to use the life-saving techniques and strategies I teach you.

If you employ what you'll learn on these tapes, you won't make mistakes that can cost you your life (or the lives of your loved ones).

It's all about the tactical use of your MIND instead of just your equipment. That's why I call the video "The Fighting Mindset."

You'll call it the most valuable set of videos you've ever owned. Call now.

Sincere best regards,



Ben Cooley

P.S. Here's another testimony from one of my students on how effective this training is...

"In the second day of Ben's course, I got called out on a search warrant with the Special Response Team unit. I was the scout lead-man and the first one into the residence. When I went in, I encountered two men, one of whom held a bottle of crack cocaine. Because of what I learned from Ben Cooley, these guys were totally helpless. They were immediately on the floor, and they knew I was serious!"

— J. Taylor • Police Officer and Trainer • Whiteville, North Carolina

My students have paid thousands of dollars to attend my courses. Now you can get the same training on video for less than a Ben Franklin.

This is a once-in-a-lifetime, risk-free opportunity that might not be offered to you again. Don't pass it up.

Special One-Time Offer for Soldier of Fortune Readers Only!

Learn the Powerful Combat Secrets of SWAT, Hostage Rescue, and Anti-Terrorist Teams!

This Is Your Risk-Free Order Form for "The Fighting Mindset" by Ben Cooley

For Fastest Service Use Your Credit Card And Call TOLL-FREE

1-800-899-8153 (Ask For Department BC-34)

or FAX this form directly to: (209) 732-5537

YES! I want to learn and master the elite combat shooting secrets revealed by champion handgunner and SWAT team trainer Ben Cooley on his life-saving new video course, the Fighting Mindset! It's 6 hours of everything I need to use a gun properly for defending myself and my family! You guarantee that if I'm not absolutely delighted with what I learn from these 3 video tapes, I can return them in 90 days and receive a full refund of every penny I paid! On that risk-free basis, how can I resist? Rush me The Fighting Mindset for only ~~\$129.97~~ plus \$9.65 shipping and handling.

You pay only \$97 (one time offer) Offer valid while supplies last.

I prefer to pay by credit card. Please charge my:

Visa MasterCard American Express Discover

Enclosed is my Check or Money Order for ~~\$129.97~~
(Payable to Threat Response Solutions)

Card #: _____ Name: _____

Expires: _____

Address: _____

Signature _____ City: _____ ST: _____ Zip: _____

Threat Response Solutions • 606 E. Acequia, Department BC-34 • Visalia, CA 93292

CA & VA residents add appropriate sales tax. Rush shipping available for additional charges of \$10 for "2-Day" shipping and \$15 for "Overnight" shipping. Foreign orders may require additional shipping. Call for more information.

SLICK WILLIE WATCH

Top Gun Salesman

Bill Clinton was named "gun salesman of the year" in 1994, when his push for the assault-weapons ban prompted an unprecedented glut in sales before the law took effect.

Here he goes again, helping out the gun industry.

Clinton quietly laid plans last fall to clamp down on assault weapons imports — an industry thriving since the ban on domestic sales. When word got out, gun dealers rushed the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms for permits to import modified assault weapons, to meet a sudden demand in the market just before Christmas.

The ATF normally grants 600,000 such permits each year. In October, alone, after word of a potential White House crackdown, the ATF fulfilled 150,000 requests for import permits. All 150,000 permits were for weapons patterned on the Kalashnikov AK-47; about 100,000 were for Egyptian-made MISTRs, and 50,000 for Romanian-made WUM-1s.

Gun dealers find friends these days in the strangest places — including the White House.

Addicted To Love

Is a whiskey bottle at fault when someone drinks it too fast? Of course not.

Likewise, it may not be Clinton's fault he slept around while governing Arkansas. Like bourbon to an alcoholic, Clinton was the object of an addict.

On CNBC's "Equal Time," Dolly Browning said she had a "sexual addiction" to Clinton during an affair that lasted throughout his term as governor. Browning calls Clinton "Billie" and has known him since she was age 11. The two ended their affair, Browning said, before the 1992 presidential campaign.

Browning has written a semi-autobiographical book called "Purposes of the Heart," which features a womanizing Bill Clinton-like figure. To date, Paula Jones and Jennifer Flowers haven't claimed an addiction to the president, but Jones is still suing for harassment.

In the suit, Flowers and Jones are expected to disagree about Clinton's penis. Jones says it's bent; Flowers denies that. (Clinton's past brings such dignity to the White House.)

Meanwhile, two Washington think tanks — the Free Congress Foundation and the National Center for Public Policy Research — are airing ads urging women to call a toll-free number "if you believe you have been a victim of sexual harassment by the president."

Coming soon: a 12-step group for women in recovery ... from too much Slick Willie.

More Car Trouble

The back seat of a car caused Clinton more than his share of political turmoil.

Now trouble emerges from the trunk of a tornado-damaged car abandoned 10 years ago in an auto repair shop near Little Rock. From the trunk, says jailed Whitewater figure Jim McDougal, comes a 1982 cashier's check made out to Clinton for \$27,600. (A

KEL TEC

First the P-11 Pistol. Now the SUB-9 Rifle



The SUB-9 is a semi-automatic rifle for the 9 mm Luger cartridge. By changing the grip assembly the SUB-9 will accept most double column high capacity handgun magazines.

By rotating the barrel the SUB-9 can instantly be reduced to a size of 16 x 7 inches. The reapplication of the barrel to shooting position can be achieved in less than a second.

The P-11 is a semi-automatic, locked breech pistol in 9 mm Luger. Double Action Only, it is still the smallest and lightest full capacity 9 mm ever made.


Many accessories are now available: Belt clip, Tritium sights, trigger shoe, grip and magazine extensions.




KEL-TEC CNC INC.
PO BOX 3427
COCOA FL 32924-3427

Phone 407-631-0068
Fax 407-631-1169
E: aimkelttec@aol.com
Web: www.kel-tec.com


There are times when your




The Blackhawk Snap-Shoot Assault Sling works on any rifle regardless of swivel placement and keeps the gun in the ready position.




The Blackhawk Omega 45 cal. Drop Leg Pistol Mag pouch is one of over 30 holsters and drop pouches designed by the pro's who use them.




The Omega thigh-rig grenade pouches come in all sizes-M203's to Flash-Bangs. Also available are versions for most machine gun magazines.



The Phoenix Pack features a weapon lock system, padded stabilizer belt, Fastex buckles, Blackhawk's Lifetime Guarantee and is CamelBak Compatible!



Carlos Hathcock is paid full royalties on every Hathcock designed product Blackhawk carries, including this deluxe padded scope cover.



Blackhawk makes a full line of luggage and load-out bags, gun cases, med-vac bags, and specialty cases--all Guaranteed for Life. Call 1-800-694-5263 for info!

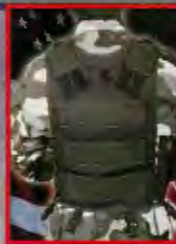
When the mission demands it.
When your life depends on it.
When the objective must be
secured at all cost, count us in.

There are times when your gear cannot fail. We know this because we've been shot at ourselves. Our designers are cops. SWAT guys. SEAL's and Marines. We know what combat is like. That's why we manufacture the finest nylon on earth--holsters and vests, daypacks and gunstraps--all made with the absolute strongest materials money can buy. All backed by BlackHawk's *Lifetime Guarantee*. Featuring our exclusive CamelBak Hydration Systems. Built with the Passion for Excellence that has made



BLACKHAWK
THE WORLD'S FINE

gear must not be an issue...



The Omega Crossdraw Tac-Vest is one of over a dozen CamelBak Compatible premium quality Blackhawk vests. Call 1-800-694-5263 to find out about all the others.



The Omega drop-leg knife sheath is available to fit the M16 bayonet as well as other popular knife sizes-Guaranteed for Life!



Blackhawk's 3-Day Assault Backpack features a detachable padded waistbelt, stabilizer system, quick-release buckles and CamelBak Compatibility.



The Blackhawk 5-5-10 Urban Carry Case is the fastest drawing weapon case on the market-one of over 400 premium nylon products.



Blackhawk is the exclusive tactical industry distributor for all the cool CamelBak products including the new H.A.W.G.® and 90 oz. camouflage M.W.L.F.®!



BlackHawk is the fastest growing tactical nylon company in the world! To find out more, call for free info or the BlackHawk Ordering Guide (\$4.00) featuring over 400 of the world's finest tactical nylon products!

BlackHawk's Lifetime Guaranteed Mount-Out Bags come in multiple sizes and feature HawkTats, seam taping, bulletproof zippers and more!



BLACKHAWK!

TACTICAL NYLON

New Dealer Inquiries Welcome!

1-800-694-5263

(757) 436-3101 (757) 436-3088 FAX



See Your Dealer
or call NOW!!

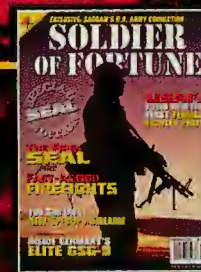
Don't Miss A Single Firefight.

Subscribe Today.



SOF

Redefining Frontline Reporting.



Clinton lawyer questions its authenticity.)

In a jailhouse interview, McDougal told Associated Press the check represents proceeds of a loan to Clinton from Madison Guaranty, which later collapsed. Clinton testified under oath in May 1996 that he never got a loan from Madison Guaranty. McDougal said he gave Clinton the loan from his thrift and that he and Clinton later concealed it by putting it under another person's name.

Minority Pandering

Clinton's not alone in thinking minorities need special programs to survive in America. One very comfortable minority agrees with him.

In a recent interview, former Today Show host Bryant Gumble said it's "hard to be defined as a conservative if you're a black man and care about black people. "Conservative," he explained, means "the status quo is good."

Stanford professor and columnist Thomas Sowell, also a black man, tried to set Gumble straight, explaining how liberals — such as the Clintons — need "the poor" to stay poor.

"The political left is more heavily dependent on the concept of 'the poor' than the poor are on the welfare state," he wrote, explaining how rent control, public housing, affirmative action and minimum wage laws have served only to create an entrenched and growing underclass.

"Wouldn't we all like to see everyone have 'decent, affordable housing,' or 'a living wage' or a 'healthy environment?' Of course!" Sowell writes. "The main difference is between those who think 'there oughta be a law' to create these things directly and those who bother to follow the actual consequences of such laws."

Drugs For Kids

A new Clinton proposal would allow the federal Food and Drug Administration to seek court orders requiring drug companies to test some new products on children.

Clinton says such research would benefit pediatric care by helping doctors assess the safety of drugs and determine proper doses for children.

Don't inhale, kids, your best interest may be at stake here. Alan Homer, president of the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America, says Clinton's proposal could harm children by requiring them to take chemical compounds even before they're found safe in less vulnerable adult guinea pigs.

Homer says adults used for drug testing give consent after examining all ramifications. Children, by law, would be forced into potentially dangerous situations at the discretion of their parents. That is, unless Clinton pushes for removal of parental consent on such things. This is, after all, the president who would eliminate parental consent for teenage girls seeking abortions.

Slick Move For Vets

Clinton may be leading his country to immoral ruin, but every now and then even *SOF* must slap him on the back with praise.

As the Pentagon hangs ailing Gulf War veterans out to dry, Clinton is creating an oversight board to monitor Defense Department probes into Gulf War Syndrome, saying, "Our administration has made it a priority to care for and compensate Gulf War veterans who have fallen ill."

A House panel recently deemed Pentagon and Department of Veterans Affairs inquiries in to Gulf War Syndrome "irreparably flawed" and "plagued by arrogant incuriosity and a pervasive myopia." Additionally, \$13.2 million will be spent for research on effects of exposure to toxic agents, and a new benefits system will be established to insure treatment and compensation for "all illnesses linked to service in the gulf," even if the direct cause can't be identified.

"That's a far cry from the Pentagon's 'it's all in your head' reaction to syndrome symptoms," states a New York Daily News editorial. "It's a surprise the brass don't treat bullet wounds with Prozac." ✕

Whether it's day or night, AMT has your sight. Call now to receive a *free catalog* of AMT's quality line of Night Vision devices and daytime optics.

PROFESSIONAL 5X30L DAYTIME RIFLE SCOPE

- LIT RETICLE
- RANGEFINDER
- BULLET DROP COMPENSATOR
- EVERYLIGHT™ AND PROSHIELD™ LENS COATINGS



There is simply no better scope for the AR-15 or M-16 rifles and their modifications.



MO-22
1ST, 2ND AND 3RD GEN.
NIGHT VISION SCOPES

Mk-6500
BEST NIGHT VISION WEAPON
SIGHTS ON THE MARKET

AMERICAN TECHNOLOGIES NETWORK CORP.

THE LEADER IN NIGHT VISION TECHNOLOGY

CALL TODAY!

800 910 2862

415 882 7970

FAX 415 882 7975

101 TOWNSEND STREET, SUITE 207B SAN FRANCISCO, CA, 94107

VIPER
HEAD MOUNTABLE, CAMERA
ADAPTABLE NIGHT VISION
DEVICES AVAILABLE IN ALL
GENERATIONS.



Silent Knights

I want to call your attention to a technically sloppy photograph on page 18 of the January 1998 issue. The photo in question was used to illustrate an article titled "Counting on A Long Shot."

The two people in the photo seem to be involved in long range marksmanship on the roof of a building. Obviously, they aren't worried about being spotted by anyone who can shoot back because: (1) they are showing lots of white skin; and (2) both the spotter and the shooter are offering very high profiles. Now we come to the obvious technical contradiction which leads us to conclude that to please the *SOF* writer two cops simply grabbed a gee-whiz appearing rifle to have their picture made atop the police building.

The long range rifle in the photo has a sound suppressor attached. The fact is that in the process of altering sound, suppressors do very bad things to make the ballistics of bullet flight erratic. No matter if the marksman

is using full-power loads or subsonic ammo, accuracy is seriously degraded by sound suppression equipment.

The subsonic loads most often used by police departments in suppressed rifles usually degrade .308 performance to the point that it is ballistically equivalent to a 38+P handgun load. What this means is suppressed sniper rifles are reasonably accurate and energy effective out to about 150 yards. Why would anyone be concerned about wind when shooting at 150 yards?

So the point is, please don't insult your readers' intelligence. It is one thing to write about long range wind doping in police marksmanship applications when 99.9 percent of the shots are limited to less than 90 yards. And quite another to suggest by way of a photograph and cutline that a sound suppressed rifle has anything at all to do with long range precision shooting.

Bill Williams
Adobe Walls, Texas

Since the Post Office, Southwestern Bell and the Texas Secretary of State all advise

there is no Adobe Walls except as the historic site of the famous long-range rifle shot by Billy Dixon (MOH), now on a private ranch, we can only assume that Mr. Williams, if there is a Mr. Williams, chose to snipe from cover. The malaprop use of argot suggests "Mr. Williams" may have reference to but has never operated in the arena of which he implies so much expertise.

*As it appeared his aim was off considerably, we solicited a response from what we consider a quorum on the subject: our own Technical Editor Peter G. Kokalis; John Plaster, author of definitive books and videos on the subject; and Jim Leatherwood, inventor of the ART sniper scope, former associate of the first company to sell quantities of suppressors to the Army, and for years, *SOF's* contributing editor for sniping/countersniping.*

Kokalis replies:

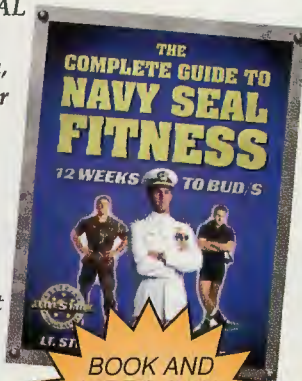
I'm sorry to inform Bill Williams that his statement, "... suppressors do very bad things to make the ballistics of bullet flight erratic. No matter if the marksman is

FIVE STAR FITNESS -- AUTHENTIC MILITARY PT

Ace the NAVY SEAL PFT!

Achieve a 100% success rate with the revolutionary 12 Weeks to BUD/S Workout. Guaranteed!

Whether you want to be a NAVY SEAL or just be as tough as one...you need this book and video. Covers strength, endurance, swimming, running, upper and lower body PT, abs, motivation, workout schedules... the works. You'll be one strong, hard, and ripped frogman in no time. This is the exact program that has helped many men attain optimal fitness and make it to BUD/S. It really works!



BOOK AND VIDEO JUST \$24.95
PLUS \$5.00 S&H

Call Now!

Lt. Stewart Smith,
USN (SEAL)

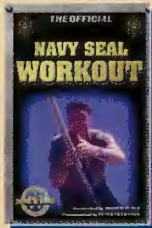


1-800-906-1234

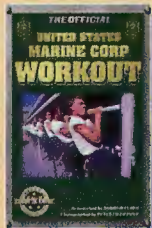
Send Check or M/O to: Hatherleigh Co., 1114 1st Ave., Ste. 500, NY, NY 10021



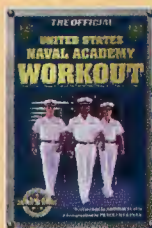
ALSO AVAILABLE



The Official Navy SEAL Workout.
PT, nutrition, extensive detail of the famous SEAL obstacle course and more.
\$14.95



The Official Marine Corps Workout.
Rugged PT for the rugged soul. Maximize upper body strength.
\$14.95



The Official Naval Academy Workout.
Get in shape for the Navy PRT through a powerful 6-week workout plan.
\$14.95

www.getfitnow.com

using full power loads or subsonic ammo, accuracy is seriously degraded by sound suppression equipment" is completely incorrect.

Our tests of the Thundertrap sound suppressor made by AWC Systems Technology on an AW CFI Limited Edition sniper rifle demonstrated that this sound suppressor serves to enhance accuracy, as groups fired with the suppressor in place were measurably smaller than those fired without the suppressor. The same results will be obtained by modern suppressors of different makes and designs.

Mr. Williams is in serious need of a reality check, as he is obviously firing from a bunker in LaLaLand.

Plaster replies:

Any letter with an Adobe Walls return address must be taken seriously, for this is where Medal of Honor recipient Billy Dixon, one of the finest riflemen of the 19th Century, made his spectacular 1,538-yard shot on 29 June 1875.

It's surprising that in the reader's opinion, long-range marksmanship is not a matter for police sharpshooters. Two of the bloodiest counter-sniper battles ever fought by police — against Texas Tower killer Charles Whitman and the New Orleans rooftop gunman Jimmy Essex — were far beyond 90 yards, and indeed, contributing to the problem was a "prepare-for-the-average" mentality that put police at a disadvantage [case in point: The only rifle available at the Texas Tower was in the hands of deputized civilian Alan Crum; Austin Patrolman Ramiro Martinez took the sniper down with six rounds from his service revolver at close range — eds.]

Any rooftop-to-rooftop engagement in a major urban area would involve shots well beyond 90 yards and, in such a setting, knowledge of wind drift would prove crucial; these factors apply, equally, to counter-hijack situations at major airports. The reader's comment "Why would anyone be concerned about wind when shooting at 150 yards," shows not just an unappreciation for these likely missions, but for the precision that is integral to each and every shot a police rifleman may be called upon to take.

As for the effects of a rifle suppressor, the reader is correct that a sub-sonic .308 round produces much less kinetic energy than a supersonic round, but a suppressor won't necessarily degrade accuracy. I've fired many suppressed rifles, such as AWC's, and, with quality ammunition, they're no less accurate than an unsuppressed rifle. Coincidentally, the author of this article in question, Jeff Hoffman, president of Black Hills Ammunition, has performed impressive, breakthrough research in developing a special .308 subsonic round which can be fired accurately through a rifling twist of 1:10 or 1:12, despite the subsonic load's slow velocity.

As for the offending photograph, I don't think it can be interpreted one way or the

INVEST IN PRECIOUS METAL.



Springfield Quality Speaks for Itself.

Nothing says rugged reliability like a Springfield 1911-A1. Forged for maximum strength and machined to the most exacting tolerances, every Springfield is hand-assembled and individually inspected. Simply, Springfield delivers investment quality firearms, sure to hold their value for a lifetime.

More Than 60 Models To Choose From.

There's a 1911-A1 to fill every law enforcement, competition and personal defense need.



For every shooter, from the military purist to the demanding competitor, Springfield offers, by far, the most choices of any gunmaker.

The Industry's Best Warranty!

When you choose a Springfield 1911-A1, your investment is protected for a lifetime of reliable performance. Expect only the best from America's Finest Gunmaker!



The Oldest Name In American Firearms
SPRINGFIELD ARMOY.
Springfield Inc. • 420 West Main St. • Geneseo, IL 61254



Springfield Inc. • Dept. SOF 1-98 • 420 West Main St. • Geneseo, IL 61254
ph. 309/944-5631 • fax 309/944-3676 • www.springfield-armory.com

SOLDIER OF FORTUNE

Is looking for a few more good advertisers.

Think you can hack it?

Call 1-800-800-7630 ext. 307

I WANT YOU

Or check out our Internet site:
www.sofmag.com. Click on "Media Kit."

.....
 NOW AVAILABLE
 RUBBER GRIPS FOR
 PARA ORDNANCE,
 S&W 6906,
 SIG 230 & 239

HOGUE -the finest handgun grips.

Made from soft rubber and fancy exotic hardwoods. Available for most makes and models of revolvers and automatics.

All Hogue Grips are designed with features that provide exceptional accuracy, comfort and recoil control. Hogue Grips superior features result in more enjoyable shooting and higher scores, whether in competition, law enforcement or just plinking. Nothing improves the performance and looks of a handgun more than a Hogue Grip.

Hogue Grips are available at a dealer near you, or you can order direct. **Call now for our new photo-packed 16-page FREE COLOR CATALOG** which includes our complete pricing and information on new rubber

OVERMOLDED™ stocks

for Ruger, Remington, Winchester and AR-15 rifles. Also included is our new line of target barrels for the Ruger 10-22, Poly Swivel™ sling swivels, and much more



OVERMOLDED™ RIFLE STOCKS

Revolutionary **OVERMOLDED** Series stocks are made so that the action fits in a rigid fiberglass reinforced insert (skeleton), assuring accuracy and durability. The insert is then completely **OVERMOLDED** with the same rubber that makes Hogue Grips famous.

- SLEEK STRAIGHT COMB
- VARMINTER STYLE FOREND
- AMBIDEXTROUS PALM SWELLS
- DROP-IN INSTALLATION
- STANDARD OR BULL BARREL MODELS AVAILABLE
- COMFORTABLE
- STEALTHY QUIET • NON-SLIP

FIND OUT WHY HOGUE
 IS THE MOST LOGICAL
 CHOICE FOR YOU.

CALL TOLL-FREE FOR A
FREE CATALOG

OF HOGUE PRODUCTS

1-800-GET-GRIP

(1-800-438-4747) (TX 805-239-1440 • FAX 805-239-2553)



**HOGUE
 INC**

P.O. Box 1138
 Paso Robles, CA 93447
<http://www.getgrip.com>

other unless we know why these police are on that rooftop. For instance, with VIP protection missions, their first priority is field-of-view to detect threats, so this could be their best possible position. It's just a photo, Bill — lighten up.

Leatherwood replies:

With all due respect to Mr. Williams and his famous address, he is mistaken on both counts.

Police snipers, even in a hot situation, usually enjoy relative immunity to return fire, particularly if they are at a distance from the target. They must be concerned with public safety, not their own. Concealment is nice, but good observation and control are even more important. As the old saw goes, "it depends on the terrain and the situation."

As to suppressor-equipped sniper rifles, the 9th Infantry Division in RVN clearly proved that the suppressors actually improved accuracy. Peter Senich's book *The Long Range War* explains and documents this in detail. An improperly fitted suppressor can be a problem, but one that is right works very well indeed to improve accuracy, possibly due to the dampening effect its mass has on barrel vibration, and beneficial changes in gas turbulence at the muzzle (and the lack of effect, in turn, on the base of the projectile).

BIG APPLE: SMALLER NUMBERS

I have been a reader/subscriber of your magazine for several years now and must say I consistently look forward to the next issue. I do, however, have one quick comment concerning Steve Salisbury's article "Armor on a Sho-



Next Month in SOF ...

- Sniping 2000 — John Plaster's intel report on precision shooting in the next millennium
- SOF interviews the man who dropped the bomb, Gen. Paul Tibbets
- Follow the 8th Marines as they blast in to Kuwait
- Plus: Today's Attack Dogs
- Kimber's Ultimate Compact .45
- Middle East Update



**April SOF goes on sale
 3 March**

**Don't miss an issue —
 Subscribe now by calling
 1-800-877-5207**

estrating" (SOF Jan '98). In his second paragraph he states that a murderous frenzy resulted in over 3,500 lives being lost in 1996. He goes on to claim that this is double New York City's total.

This would imply that New York City had roughly 1,750 murders in 1996. Here at the New York City Police Department we have been working very hard to stem the crime rate and currently are among the nation's leaders in that endeavor. In 1966 we had 984 murders, nowhere near the 1,750 in Salisbury's article. As a matter of fact our year to date total (12/01/1997) is down to 704, with a year-end projection of approximately 770. This is the lowest in over 30 years.

Sgt. Cory Cuneo
Office of The Deputy Commissioner of
Public Information
Police Department, City of New York

Sarge, thanks for setting us straight.

EXTREMISTS?

I have enjoyed your magazine since 1982. I am a U.S. Marine, and I understand what Honor, Courage and Commitment are. I have had it with these liberals and college asses that call my Corps an "Extremist Organization." The USMC had the best program on line for 221 years and every parent was happy to send their boys to Parris Island and San Diego to become mean machines to protect our great nation. Would you rather we not exist? I pray the Corps will be a badass outfit in the next century. May God help us all if the Corps goes soft.

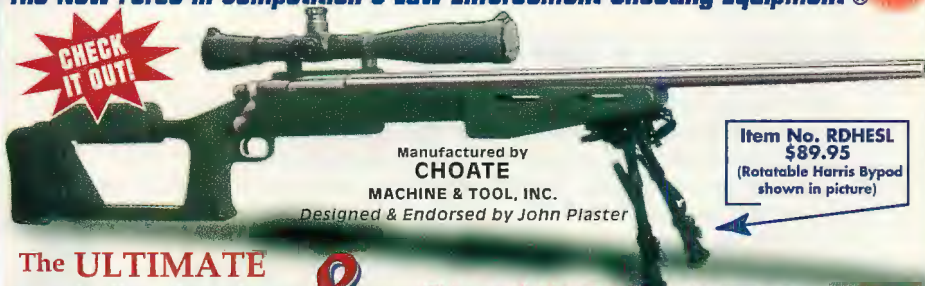
Semper Fi,
Cpl. Jeff Holliday, USMC



Credit Card Orders: 1-800-852-4445

DELTA FORCE

The New Force in Competition & Law Enforcement Shooting Equipment



The ULTIMATE TARGET & SNIPER STOCK

Fits REMINGTON model 700

Item No. CM220101 (Rem ADL, short action, olive drab color).....	\$159.95
Item No. CM220102 (Rem ADL, short action, camo color)	\$169.95
Item No. CM220103 (Rem ADL, long action, olive drab color)	\$159.95
Item No. CM220104 (Rem ADL, long action, camo color)	\$169.95
Item No. CM220109 (Rem BDL, short action, olive drab color)	\$159.95
Item No. CM220110 (Rem BDL, short action, camo color)	\$169.95
Item No. CM220111 (Rem BDL, long action, olive drab color)	\$159.95
Item No. CM220112 (Rem BDL, long action, camo color)	\$169.95

Fits WINCHESTER model 70 (will not fit pre-1964 models)

Item No. CM220301 (Win mod 70, long action, olive drab color)	\$159.95
Item No. CM220302 (Win mod 70, long action, camo color)	\$169.95
Item No. CM220303 (Win mod 70, short action, olive drab color)	\$159.95
Item No. CM220304 (Win mod 70, short action, camo color)	\$169.95

Fits SAVAGE model 110

Item No. CM220601 (Savage 110, olive drab color).....	\$159.95
Item No. CM220602 (Savage 110, camo color)	\$169.95

We predict that this stock will be a benchmark for sniper rifles in the future. We have features that the hand laid fiberglass/kevlar stock makers cannot incorporate into their stocks. What we have done is eliminate most of the expensive hand labor and passed the savings on to you. We are keeping the price down so that most rifle owners can afford a top notch sniper stock. Most shooters know what free floating the barrel and a bedding block does for a rifle, we have made this difficult job easy. The stock is molded in dark olive drab green color. The polymer stock can be painted with almost any automotive spray color. The rubber recoil pad is a little on the stiff side because it is much more durable at this durometer than a cushy pad, with a 3/4" compression, can allow a shooter to get a scope eye piece hit in the eyebrow. Comes with mounting plate for Harris Bypod, (bypod not included). The stock comes in short or long action, the short action caliber rifles are: .223, .243, .308. Long action Caliber rifles are: 30.06, .300, .270, .375, etc. ~ As seen in the video ADVANCED ULTIMATE SNIPER

FEATURES:

- Five position adjustable buttplate
- Three position adjustable cheekpiece
- Dragunov style thumbhole stock with off-hand notch
- Camouflage tie-down slots
- Anshutz type "T" rail Angled forend for elevation adjustment & bipod

FREE with purchase of any Plaster sniper stock receive U.S.M.C. SNIPING MANUAL(C-165, \$16.95 VALUE)

CREDIT CARD ORDERS ONLY CALL OUR TOLL-FREE ORDER LINE

1-800-852-4445

CUSTOMER SERVICE

1-870-862-4984

FAX NUMBER 1-870-862-9671

ALLOW 2 WEEKS FOR DELIVERY



Add \$6.50 S&H to all orders plus an additional \$3.00 for orders to Canada.

Other foreign orders: add \$12.00 for first item and \$2.00 for each additional item

SEND CHECK OR MONEY ORDER TO:

Delta Press Ltd.
215 S. Washington St.
El Dorado, AR. 71730

Dept.
SF982

Send \$4 for a 64 page, color catalog(FREE with an order) SORRY, NO C.O.D.'s



Attention Soldier Of Fortune, Inc. Fans!

Soldier of Fortune Magazine's expanded anniversary issue, October 1997, features detailed coverage of the new hit TV series Soldier of Fortune, Inc., with behind-the-scenes reporting, exclusive interviews and photos from the set of the military action-adventure show. Plus an awesome cover featuring the TV series cast. This jam-packed issue also contains a bigger-than-usual dose of the kind of reporting SOF readers have come to expect: from Russia to Vietnam, the Sudan to Peru, SOF is there.

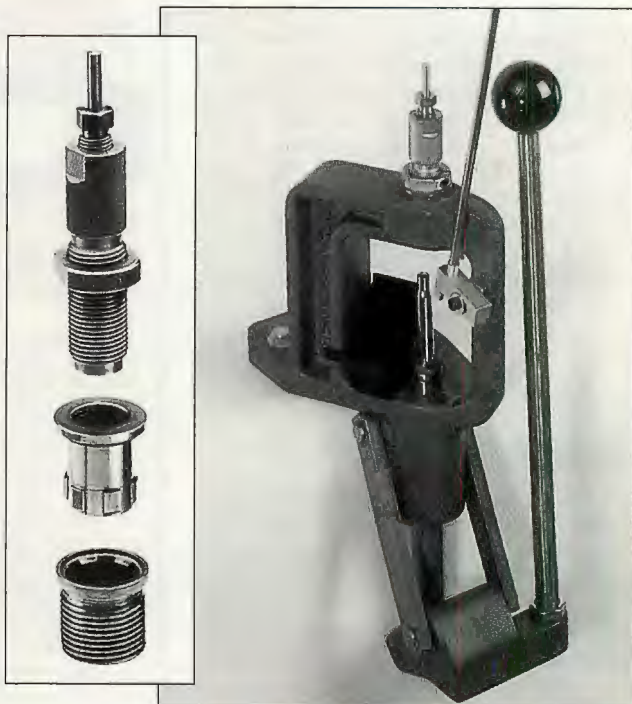
A limited number of copies of this edition are available at the special rate of \$5 each including shipping and handling. Order now by calling 1-800-800-7630.

ADVENTURE QUARTERMASTER

HORNADY'S LOCK-N-LOAD CLASSIC

While progressive loaders now predominate with those in my loop who shoot belt-fed fast guns, don't dismiss single-stage presses as totally archaic, as they still have a significant niche in the field of reloading. Pacific introduced its C-Press in 1928, but O-style frames like the old (and no-longer manufactured) RCBS A2 and the new Hornady Lock-N-Load Classic are substantially stronger. The biggest annoyance associated with single-stage presses has always been changing dies, which most often had to be re-adjusted every time they were slowly threaded back into the press. So-called "turret" presses with rotating heads containing as many as four stations were developed to alleviate this problem. I have a 30-year-old Lyman press of this type, which I still use to load .44 Magnum. However, turret presses require a support post at the rear that must be loosened and then tightened again every time the head is rotated to bring another die over the shell holder.

Hornady's new Lock-N-Load quick-change bushing system completely eliminates these aggravations in a most unique manner. Based upon the strong, positive and simple locking concept of a bolt-action rifle, the Lock-N-Load system consists of a die bushing with six locking lugs that will accept any standard 7/8-14 die and a press bushing which remains threaded in the loading press itself. Just insert the die and die bushing into the press bushing and rotate it clockwise to lock them in place. Adjust the die to the desired position and secure it with the die's lock ring. Since the Lock-N-Load bushing remains with the die, after removal the die remains set exactly as adjusted and can be re-



Two magazines **you need** for everything else **you want**
 When it's time to choose weapons and gear **you can rely on...**

American Handgunner and GUNS Magazine are loaded with information you can trust.

The tell-it-like-it-is style of American Handgunner pulls no punches with reviews of the latest out-of-the-box and custom handguns.

If it shoots you'll find it in GUNS. Handguns, rifles, and shotguns for sport and combat are featured every month.

Detailed photos in each magazine make you feel like you've held and examined the guns close up.

Get them both and have an arsenal of choices at your finger tips when it's decision time.

Get both only \$29.95!

YES! I gotta have 'em. Enter my one year subscription to both American Handgunner and GUNS Magazine for ONLY \$29.95 plus send me the '98 Combat Annual for FREE!

Check/MO enclosed Bill MC/Visa

No. _____ Exp. Date _____ Initial _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State/Zip _____

Send to: GUNS, Dept. SOF398, P.O. Box 85201, San Diego, CA 92186

GUARANTEE
 If you're not completely satisfied you can get a full refund on unmailed issues.

Order by phone: **(888) 732-2299**

Want More Combat? It's FREE!

You'll get the 1998 American Handgunner Combat Annual with your paid order (\$9.95 value). Here's just a peak at what's inside: Seven Steps for Survival, Guns for Hostile Environments, Catalog of Currently Manufactured firearms.

inserted instantly into the press at any time, usually without any further adjustments being required.

I recently reloaded several hundred .357 Magnum cases on a Hornady Lock-N-Load Classic single-stage press using Hornady's New Dimension pistol dies. The components selected were Hornady's .38 caliber 158-grain jacketed hollow-point XTP (Extreme Terminal Performance) bullets (with pistol ammunition the heaviest bullet will generally provide the best wound ballistics performance), CCI 550 small pistol magnum primers and 14.7 grains of Hodgdon's H110. This combination will produce a muzzle velocity of 1,250 fps, which falls within the velocity range for which this Hornady XTP bullet was designed to provide its maximum performance.

Hornady's pistol-sizing dies feature a golden titanium-coated ring that eliminates the need to lubricate cases. This die also contains the decapping assembly. The second die in this three-die set holds the precision ground and polished expander that flares the case mouth, preparing it to receive the bullet. The unique sliding, in-line seating system of the third die assures bench-rest alignment of every bullet and permits crimping without an extra die, if desired.

When loading anything less than 500 rounds, I find that a single-stage press will permit superior quality control, as the operator can concentrate on each stage of the reloading process. Hornady's reloading equipment matches the superb quality of their bullets and ammunition. For further information contact them directly (Hornady Manufacturing Company, Dept. SOF, P.O. Box 1848, Grand Island, Nebraska 68802-1848; phone: 800-338-3220; fax: 308-382-5761; E-mail: webmaster@hornady.com).

—Peter G. Kokalis

LEGIONNAIRE COMBATANT WATCH

Veteran SOF correspondent Paul Fanshaw was recently caught on film in



COMBAT READY

Boker's New Release is the Famous Applegate-Fairbairn® Fighting Knife

During World War II Colonel Rex Applegate, close-combat instructor for the OSS, joined forces with British Commando instructor W.E. Fairbairn to improve the design of the Fairbairn-Sykes commando dagger. Their collaboration produced one of the finest fighting knives ever designed. Col. Applegate has turned over those plans and design notes to Boker for this piece of history.

Boker's latest issue features a 6" long, 1" wide blade, beefy all the way to the tip, in a traditional dagger cross section profile. It is forged of Solingen 440C stainless hardened to a Rockwell 58. The signatures of the two men are etched in the head blasted finish.

The fiberglass reinforced Delrin® handle is thickened in the middle, contouring in, then out meeting a short, forward bending brass cross guard that protects the fingers. Rearward balance is achieved by inserting steel weights. Vertical grooving allows the flesh of the fingers and palm to become one with the handle. A lanyard hole is added for convenience.

New
Release

A-F 11
Partially Serrated,
Kydex® Sheath
\$126.00

A-F 12
Cordura® Sheath
\$107.50



BOKER
RAUMWERK-SOLINGEN

For order information or a FREE knife catalog, call toll free (800) 992-6537. Boker USA, Inc., 1550 Balsam Street, Lakewood, CO 80215-3117

RUSSIAN-UKRAINIAN TOURS

Travel to
ADVENTURE
in the
Former
U.S.S.R.

It's the **trip of a lifetime**
that could
CHANGE YOUR LIFE!

More than friendship and cultural exchange! You will meet 700 to 800 beautiful singles of Russia and Ukraine at six hospitality receptions. These tours have been featured on NBC's Dateline, CNN, Fox Network and other English, German & Canadian TV.



- ▲ Round-trip flight based on NYC-JFK departure. Frequent flyer miles accumulate to your airline account.
- ▲ Coach transport to and from hotel. Tour representatives will greet you at the airport as you clear customs.
- ▲ Two meals a day

- ▲ Nine nights at the best four-star hotel (single occupancy)
- ▲ Hospitality receptions. Your personal interpreter will be on hand to ensure the success of your social activities.
- ▲ American representatives will oversee tour excursions and all activities.



EUROPEAN CONNECTIONS
A TOURS INCORPORATED

Dept. 352
P.O. Box 888851 • Atlanta, Ga 30356
770-458-0909
24 HOURS A DAY
euroladies@mindspring.com

Now, You Can Destroy Any Attacker Using Never-Before-Seen "Killing" Techniques

Creator of Official U.S. Navy SEAL Combat System Releases Brutal New Gun & Knife Sections Of His Instructor Qualification Fighting Series

Can you disarm a man holding a knife to your throat? What if a car-jacker sticks a gun through your window — and your wife, girlfriend, or child is sitting beside you?

In an often brutal yet professionally direct approach, Jerry Peterson's new video series shows you how to destroy these attackers, while taking you to the ultimate level of fighting.

The culmination of a 2-year transformation from actual SCARS military archive techniques, his **Instructor Qualification Series** offers you the opportunity to learn what until now was taught to military Special Operations forces (SEALS, Rangers, Green Berets, etc.).

It's been called "the most brutally effective fighting system ever seen."

Before explaining more about this system, here's how Jerry Peterson, the creator of this system, became the first — and only — civilian ever to standardize, license and teach a hand-to-weapon fighting system to the United States military.

In 1989, Naval Special Warfare Command (NSWC), the group which controls all SEAL activity, was looking for ways to standardize hand-to-weapon combat techniques. After an exhaustive review, they had rejected every single martial art form in the world.

They found each completely unworkable in combat-oriented fighting situations where SEALs were in full gear, carrying 100# packs, and often knee-deep in water.

Amazing Scientific System

Then a SEAL NSWC officer (with black belts in 3 martial arts) saw Jerry Peterson's scientific fighting system. What he stumbled on wasn't martial arts. In fact it was unlike anything he'd ever seen before.

The SEAL officer watched in disbelief as a class of inexperienced students threw real punches for virtually 1 full hour, never repeating the same sequences. In one session he witnessed more fighting than most martial arts students see in a year.

Later, two top brass at NSWC saw the officer demonstrating moves he'd learned. But intrigue turned to doubt when they learned the originator was an ex-Army enlisted man.

Still they met with Jerry, as much out of admiration for his Vietnam record as anything (he spent 15 months as lead point for Charlie Company, the 173rd Airborne — one of the most decorated units of the war). As Vietnam vets, the SEAL officers figured Jerry at least would understand their needs.

Easily Defeats Decorated SEAL

But they were totally unprepared for what happened. To prove his system, Jerry Peterson and a highly-decorated SEAL Officer (and at 240, 100 pounds heavier than Jerry) went toe-to-toe — but at half speed. To the Officer's amazement he was instantly disabled and dropped to his knees.

Only then did he realize — had he not been talked out of going full speed by others who knew the awesome power of Jerry Peterson's system, his false confidence in his martial arts training and in his sheer size advantage would have left him with an arm broken as easily as a match stick!

In 5 short minutes these SEAL officers — men who had seen everything in the way of brutal fight-

ing, and who had virtually unlimited budgets to develop the SEALs into the world's best — were blown away by Jerry Peterson's *Autokinematic™* fighting system.

Officially Required SEAL Training

Following a pilot program at Command headquarters all SEALs began receiving this training. Still, hardheaded, cocky, non-believing SEALs, many with extensive martial arts backgrounds, constantly tested Jerry:

□ SEALs are the most proficient combat swimmers in the world. Yet 40-year-old Jerry (who wasn't a particularly good swimmer) "drowned" SEAL after SEAL in training. His scientific principles apply on any terrain.

□ SEALs are trained to run 20 miles in soft sand. But Jerry (who really wasn't in great shape) had them gasping just 5 minutes into his first workouts while he participated effortlessly. He used breathing techniques others had never seen (techniques he can teach you in minutes).

□ In Europe Jerry challenged a deployed SEAL platoon to pin him against a wall. All thought it a joke. Yet he escaped — from the grasp of 14 of the most proficient fighting men in the world (then showed it was no trick — simply physics, and easily learned).

Today SEALs use all these scientific techniques and many more. Since 1989, Navy SEALs go through a minimum of 40 and up to 600 rigorous hours of Jerry Peterson's training prior to deployment (often in intense, 24-hour a day sessions).

Top Government Officials Amazed

His system was demonstrated to Navy Admirals, a 4-Star General, and Congressional leaders — as well as the Secretary of the Navy and the U.S. Secretary of Defense!

Jerry was even called in prior to Desert Storm to brief the military on using *Neural Offensive Linguistics™* (a cornerstone of his system, it defines a mind set which eliminates all defensive thinking, allowing anyone, even you, to make instantaneously correct decisions in the midst of any hostile environment).

Devastating Power Gives You An Unfair Advantage

In his HCS video course Jerry Peterson introduced you to his revolutionary system.

Now, with the publication of *Jerry Peterson's SCAR-HCS Hand-To-Weapon* fighting system, Jerry leads you into the never-before-seen world of brutal, no-holds-barred gun, knife and club fighting — material you've never seen (unless you were in elite Special Operation forces).

You'll learn the same hand-to-weapon techniques, the same mental approaches, the same 'kill' sets Jerry developed for over 200 SEAL SCARS instructors. (These SCARS instructors now teach this system to all branches of the military Spec Op forces — Army, Navy and Air Force).

You'll know how to defeat, seriously disable and, when necessary, kill anyone threatening your life or the life of a loved one or friend!

Guaranteed To Work In Your Most Nightmarish Hostile Situation

Everything in his system was proven in the most intense war lab of the past 30 years — Vietnam!

But this isn't a course to impress friends at your Karate studio. The Instructor Qualification Series is Jerry Peterson's complete professional fighting system.

And professional fighting has but one objective: to defeat an attacker incredibly fast. In 29 years Jerry's longest fight lasted but 5 seconds!

This system is only for those who need a powerful yet amazingly simple system (simple because it's based on quickly-mastered scientific principles not a difficult art form) to protect them in life-threatening situations.

No Navy SEAL has ever lost in hand-to-hand combat when correctly applying Jerry's system! And they never will (nor will you) because ... his system is undefeatable!

This Totally Integrated System Enables You To Destroy Any Attacker — With Absolutely No Fear Or Hesitation!

Cheap imitators advertise fighter after fighter after fighter — a hodgepodge of unrelated, non-scientific moves. Now they even lie, hoping to con you into believing SEALs would lose to these guys. But they know. No one beats a Peterson-trained SEAL.

These 'wanna-bes' teach one move if an attacker swings a fist at you, another if he's got a knife.

But Jerry Peterson's scientific system teaches you why you MUST use the exact same techniques — with a weapon or without! What everyone else teaches is wrong. Just ask the SEALs!

The imitators claim they've trained Navy SEALs. But Jerry Peterson is the sole creator of the official hand-to-hand and hand-to-weapon combat fighting system used by the SEALs today.

He's the only civilian with a Naval Special Warfare course number (SCARS-CFC# K-431-0096) plus a new \$2.5 million military facility predicated solely on his SCARS training.

The Navy SEAL 'wanna-be' trainers? They've got nothing — no official status, no course number.

Free Special Report Reveals GUN AND KNIFE Fighting Secrets

Jerry Peterson's system is brutal. It has to be. Yet it's surprisingly easy to learn. It requires NO athletic ability, NO speed, NO conditioning.

And because his videos offer an unprecedented 3 camera angles (including a new overhead shot), you can learn this scientific system in just days; specific techniques often in just minutes.

Jerry has created a Free special report revealing the amazing details about his scientific weapons fighting system — the system which has made the Navy SEALs an undefeatable fighting force.

It's easy to get your free copy. Just call

1-800-600-1420

24-hours for a Free recorded message to get your Free report. International, call 602-921-8533.

© Copyright 1996 Charlton & Co., Inc.



Official SEAL SCARS-CFC
Creator Jerry Peterson

Bosnia wearing a Chase-Durer Ltd. Legionnaire Combatant Watch. His assessment: "practical, strong, *very good gear.*" You can order yours by calling 1-800-544-4365 and asking for Operator 350. You can also check out their website online at www.watchshop.com or see their ad in this issue for other quality timepieces.

.45 LOADING LORE FROM MIDWAY

Midway Arms, Inc. has introduced the most extensive reloading data ever compiled on currently available .45 ACP components and powders, with 476 different combinations of loads for the .45 ACP round in their new LoadMAP manual.

Loads were developed in Midway's ballistic lab using 46 different .45 ACP bullets from 185 to 260 grain. The maximum average pressures according to SAAMI specs were developed for each bullet and powder combination. Color graphs of each load in Midway's LoadMAP manual are easy to read and follow. Interestingly, Midway engineers found there was up to an 11% difference in pressures between bullets of the same weight and manufacture, but of different design, using the same powder charge.

Midway's LoadMAP is spiral bound, to lay flat when opened. The .45 ACP loadMAP costs \$12.95 postpaid, and additional calibers are expected soon from Midway.

To order, write Midway, Dept. SOF, 5875 W. Van Horn Tavern Rd., Columbia, MO 65203; phone: 800 243-3220; fax: 573-45-0863.

BALLISTICIAN'S FORENSIC GELATIN

R. Corbin Enterprises has introduced a new ballistic gelatin for forensic scientists and small-arms researchers, which was formulated to provide an easy-to-use material that will provide repeatable, consistent results through many re-uses.

Ballistician's Forensic Gelatin comes ready to use: It is non-toxic, clean to handle and water soluble. It is not abrasive and will not remove finer details from spent bullets, and can be used to recover bullets unharmed.

When the gelatin eventually becomes contaminated, it is simply melted down, run through a strainer and recast into slabs for reuse, providing a superior and more cost-effective method than cotton waste, clays or wet paper to recover projectiles for forensic study. Although it can be used for expansion or comparison tests, it does not simulate human tissue, and is not intended for wound ballistics studies.

It is available in 10-, 30- and 100-pound lots from R. Corbin Enterprises, 4090 Colver Rd., Phoenix, OR 97535; phone: 541-535-4252; fax: 541-512-9433. ☒

There's a cultural war raging across America. Anti-gun media, politicians, educators and thought police are storming your values. Assaulting your freedoms. Killing your self-confidence. If you don't believe it, then **why do you make 3 million NRA members do the work for 70 million gun owners?** Fight back. Arm yourself with the courage of your convictions. Be proud of who you are and what you believe.



Only then and only together can we
defy them and defend
our way of life. Join Me.
Join Us. **Join Today.**

1-800-977-4NRA

ext. 928 EK Code 364657

NRA ARMED WITH PRIDE

CONTRIBUTIONS, GIFTS OR MEMBERSHIP DUES MADE OR PAID TO THE NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA ARE NOT REFUNDABLE OR TRANSFERABLE AND ARE NOT DEDUCTIBLE AS CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS FOR FEDERAL INCOME TAX PURPOSES.

SWITCHBLADE - AUTOMATIC KNIFE COLLECTORS!

"The Automatic Knife Resource Guide and Newsletter"



Sources for ALL automatic knives!

- Rare and scarce antiques.
- American-Italian-German
- High-Tech production models.
- Exotic handcrafted customs.

Check out our **WEB SITE:**
thenewsletter.com

A MUST for ALL switchblade fans!

- Packed with FIRST-CLASS photos
- Maintenance & repair tips
- Free classified ads
- The LATEST trends
- Informative articles and features

Now in our **SIXTH YEAR!**



TO ORDER YOURS: Send \$10 for a single issue or \$30 [538 Foreign] for a one-year (4 issue) subscription to

THE NEWSLETTER
2269 Chestnut St., Suite 212 A
San Francisco, CA 94123, USA

For 24hr information call 415-664-2105

I Was There

Text & Photo by Jim Grigsby

I lived in Liberia through most of the 1980s and early 1990s. Many lessons can be learned from this conflict.

To me, the most important lesson is that prior to the Liberian civil war, the vast majority of Liberians said that there wouldn't be any major trouble, certainly not a drawn-out war. The people are by nature non-violent and had never experienced a serious conflict within their borders. I believe that when people say "It can't happen here" it is guaranteed that it *will* happen, because few are looking for it.

The Liberian civil war began in reality in 1980. The coup, lead by Samuel

K. Doe, a Staff Sergeant in the Liberian army, was

extremely bloody. All of former President Tolbert's family that were found in the country were killed and their property confiscated. The members of Tolbert's cabinet were taken to the beach, tied to posts, and machine-gunned.

Prior to this coup, the first in Liberian history, there was real development taking place in Liberia. Logging, mining, fishing and light industries were blossoming under a true open-door policy for business.

Under the Doe government, prohibitive import duties were imposed and businesses began to be harassed by the military. President Doe ruled by decree and used his army to enforce his decisions.

None of this seemed to be too bad until about 1985 when the opposition political parties attempted to form a coalition party. At the first coalition meeting troops set up M60 machine guns and told the coalition party that it must disband or they would open fire. After this incident, I knew people that disappeared in the hands of the Special Security Service. These unfortunates were taken to the Presidential Mansion and never seen again. Newspapers were closed due to the uncomplimentary articles about President Doe, and his army arrested journalists.

I personally witnessed people being beaten to death and villages burned by Doe's army. Their only offense was crossing a relative of one of Doe's commanders.

In the last part of the 1980s, the Doe administration instituted sweeping restrictions on private-firearms' ownership. This measure would greatly affect the Liberian people later on. These were the

main reasons for the Liberian Civil War.

The newly elected president of Liberia, Charles Taylor, was an economic advisor for the Doe presidency. At that time he was instructed by Doe to send foreign-aid money into private Swiss accounts. Taylor refused to do this and left the country. Taylor then returned to the U.S. where he had lived while attending Harvard Business School, where he earned a degree in Business Economics. Also, while living in the United States, he received military training while in the U.S. Army.

After Taylor's departure for the States, Doe had an arrest warrant issued for him under false charges of embezzlement. Taylor was then arrested and held for extradition to Liberia.

Although there is much debate as to the means and circumstances of his escape, suffice it to say, that before Taylor could be extradited, official U.S. documents list him as escaping from a federal holding facility.

Monrovia

EYEWITNESS: LIBERIA



A grisly reminder of what can happen when only dictators have weapons and the populace is stripped of its right to bear arms. These human bones in the free port of Monrovia are of those rounded up and killed because of tribal association or political beliefs.



Taylor then made his way to Ivory Coast, which borders Liberia, formed an army and invaded an obscure military outpost on Christmas Eve, 1989, with a scant force of 30 men — and two single-shot shotguns.

From this point, the war escalated as Taylor gained support from the country people and won virtually every battle against Doe and the Liberian army. The United Nations intervened via

ECOMOG, a regional peacekeeping force, thus prolonging hostilities for five more years. Had the U.N. not intervened, it is my belief that the war in Liberia would have ended by 1991. However, because of the U.N.'s interference, the conflict raged until 1996, after having fragmented into at least a half-dozen warring factions fighting each other. It is my opinion that the leaders of these factions were, with the exception of Taylor, political opportunists.

Monrovia turned into an enclave defended by ECOMOG troops but having no genuine base; the wealth of Liberia was in the interior, controlled by the warring parties.

Monrovia developed its own currency and inflation skyrocketed in 1992 and 1993. On the other hand, Taylor's side seemed to maintain something of a functioning economy.

In the 1997 elections, Charles Taylor was elected president by a popular vote of 83%. His closest opponent getting approximately 9%. These elections were judged free and fair by all international observers.

President Taylor's support by the people and his success, in my opinion, can be attributed to his philosophy of a truly free-enterprise system. He does not believe that government has, or should have, the authority to interfere in private business.

Most of the globe's news media refer to President Taylor as a "warlord." If he's a warlord, they should also refer to George Washington as a "warlord," as they both fought for the same cause — individual liberty. Unfortunately, there were atrocities committed in both the Liberian and American revolutions, as in all prior and future military conflicts. Would anyone disagree that the tar and feathering of King George's loyalists was not an atrocity? But blaming President Taylor for wretched battlefield excesses is a hollow charge that only the naïve and misinformed believe.

In 1993, after most of the atrocities had ended, the same people that said "It can't happen here" told me "If we'd only had .22-caliber single-shot rifles, we could have stopped it."

It will be interesting to see if Liberia is left alone from outside intervention, via the United Nations and the U.S. government. News articles that have originated from inside the U.S. are not at all supportive of President Taylor. I found it very interesting that the official candidate that was put at the forefront was Helen Johnson Serrleif. According to Canadian journalists, she was the U.N. candidate. I guess the always-meddling and control-hungry United Nations is now in the business of sponsoring presidential candidates. The good people of Liberia were not fooled, as the polls showed. All reports coming out of Liberia by the people who live there and understand the situation say that President Taylor is making all the right moves to restore individual liberty and free enterprise to the Republic of Liberia, basically a copy of our own Republic, The United States of America.

I pray that he will succeed. ✕

It's Time To RELOAD and save over \$1,000

GET LOTS OF FREE STUFF!



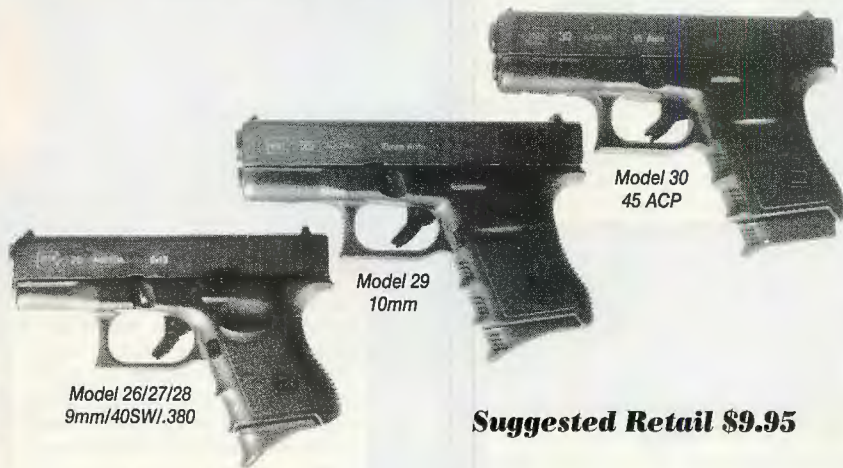
Springfield Armory announces an exciting new offer for MIA buyers. Call or write Springfield for a FREE mini-catalog and FREE promotion details.

The Oldest Name In American Firearms
SPRINGFIELD ARMORY®

Springfield Inc. • Dept. SOF 1-98 • 420 West Main • Geneseo, IL 61254
309/944-5631 • Fax 309/944-3676 • springfield-armory.com

Quality Grip Extensions for GLOCK®

MODELS 26/27/28/29 & 30



Suggested Retail \$9.95

See your local dealer or for information contact:

PEARCE GRIP, INC.

P.O. Box 187
Bothell, WA 98041

1-800-390-9420

(425) 488-9497

WORLD SITREP



1

UNITED STATES

Expect delays: Massive high tech defense worker shortage threatens cost overruns and project delays at major defense companies. Economic analysts report high commercial demand for programmers and scientists and low unemployment have left defense contractors scrambling to fill thousands of vacancies. • **Joint Forces Command:** National Defense Panel calls for new Joint Forces Command to replace Norfolk, Va.-based Atlantic Command. • **New carrier:** White House and DOD oppose early funding of proposed \$5.2 billion aircraft carrier. Newport News Shipbuilding officials say incremental funding, starting in 1998, would save \$600 million using open production lines. • **No to MEADS:** Pentagon lacks funding to continue cooperation in Medium Extended Air Defense System (MEADS), popular NATO program shared with Germany and Italy. • **Meteor shower:** Experts warn major meteor storm in Dec. 1998, threatens destruction of military, civilian satellites.

2

RUSSIA

Government will have new SS-27 Topal-M intercontinental ballistic missile by mid-1998. • **Suitcase bombs:** Alexei Yablokov, former safety adviser to Yeltsin, says military's denial of missing suitcase atom bombs is technicality. Yablokov says some of 700 suitcase-sized nuclear bombs missing from Russian arsenal. Military denies such bombs exist. Yablokov military denial reflects classification of suitcase bombs as "mines," not bombs. • **Big promo:** Yeltsin promotes Defense Minister IGOR Sergeev to nation's highest military rank. Moscow analysts say move avoids possible crisis in leadership of Russia's embattled military. • **Arms for debt:** Slovakian and Russian defense officials discuss arms-for-debt deals to pay down Russia's \$1.6 billion debt to Slovakia. Slovak minister of defense wants MiG and Su-series fighters. • **Missile explodes:** Malfunctioning booster suspected cause of explosion that destroys new Russian submarine-launched ballistic missile during trial launch. • **Internal strife:** Crumbling Russian military poses internal threat to political, economic stability, concludes study from U.S. Congressional Research Service.

7

AUSTRIA

Humanitarian initiative: Austrian officials urge all southeast European countries to provide permanent military support for humanitarian crises, offering to organize partnership. Offer comes during meeting of Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council.

8

FINLAND

Gaining strength: Coalition government to establish rapid deployment force with \$1.43 billion approved by parliament — ½ of annual defense budget — to be spread over seven years. Finnish Defense Minister Anneli Taina said she wants "more effective, more mobile troops with increased firepower." Force will comprise 6,000 soldiers by 2004.

10

SOUTH AFRICA

Truth Commission: Winnie Madikizela-Mandela faces new series of accusations before Truth Commission, regarding six other murders, an array of beatings and kidnappings. Supporters claim charges are political vendetta to keep Mandela from becoming ANC Vice President.

11

CANADA

What landmine treaty? Landmine treaty signed by 125 countries at Ottawa convention. Major producers and users — China, Iran, Israel, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Russia and United States — fail to sign. Treaty will: ban use, stockpiling, production, transfer of anti-personnel mines; force destruction of mine stockpiles in four years, clear minefields within 10 years.

13

IRAQ

Broken cease-fire: Barzani's KDP (Iraqi Kurds allied to the Turks) claim capture of strategic Hamilton Road, linking Iraqi Kurdistan to Iranian border. Talabani's PUK (Iraqi Kurds allied to Turkish PKK Kurds) had taken road in October offensive, which broke year-long U.S.-brokered cease-fire.

14

IRAN

The bomb: Iran within months of building first nuclear weapon, reports *Jane's Intelligence Review*; western nations unable to block transfer of highly-enriched uranium to Iran. Iran denies media reports it bought nuclear equipment from Austria to complete Bushehr nuclear reactor. Evidence mounts that Iran receives nuclear help from South Africa. Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu complains Russian ballistic missile technology still reaching Iran. • **New tanks:** Army unveils two full tracked self-propelled howitzers (SPHs) — 122mm Thunder-1 and 155mm Thunder-2.

15

SIERRA LEONE

Shoot the looters: Junta announced arrest of two key leaders of failed coup, and 12 others involved. Junta suspends nine officials for corruption, continues to suppress newspapers critical of its actions. Armed robbers operate in Freetown streets; junta says looters to be shot.

3

CHINA

U.S. and China pledge cooperation against Chinese organized crime. • **Tibet and China:** China says Dalai Lama offering to negotiate status of Tibet while working covertly to gain independence for region. China vows to tighten controls over Tibetan religious life. • **Taiwan and China:** Long-ruling Kuomintang Party humiliated by pro-independence parties in local elections, raising tensions with China.

4

SINGAPORE

Unmanned vehicles: Minister of defense launches international competition for tactical reconnaissance unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV), while other Southeast Asia nations freeze most military purchases. Singapore also to buy 12 F-16 fighters this year.

5

SOUTH KOREA

Duck and cover: Defense officials in U.S. and Korea predict increased sabotage, espionage and other provocative attacks on Seoul by North Korea, due to poor South Korean economic conditions. James Lilly, U.S. ambassador to Seoul, says North Korea can be expected to launch diplomatic assaults and "even military action" to exploit South Korean vulnerabilities.

6

LEBANON

Bombs away: Israeli planes bomb PFLP-GC positions in Na'ameh Hills south of Beirut, marking sixth attack in 26 days. Israeli intelligence reports to Knesset that Nasrallah told followers Israelis must concede control of Galilee to a new Palestinian state, and withdraw from Lebanon. Analysts say move indicates Hezbollah would not stop fighting after Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon, but would continue efforts to drive Israelis south. Lebanese cabinet orders Army to take firmer control of eastern Lebanon after Sheikh Tofailli calls for hunger strike against taxes. **Mine clearing:** U.S. to send 16-man training team to Beirut by summer 1998, to accelerate clearing of 600 minefields left from country's 15-year civil war. Team will train 100 or more Lebanese soldiers, as part of U.S. Pentagon humanitarian program.

9

OMAN

U.S. go home: Senior Omani officials may force U.S. to reduce cache of prepositioned military equipment, wary of eroding U.S. support in region, as U.S. and Oman renegotiate 10-year access agreement. Oman was first Persian Gulf nation to allow U.S. formal prepositioning. • **Air Force upgrade:** Royal Air Force wants industry proposal for new radar, communications network.

12

NORTHERN IRELAND

IRA disarray: Irish Republican Army fractures when 12 hard-line leaders leave organization in dispute about maintaining cease-fire. Sinn Fein insists cease-fire in no danger of collapse: Mo Molam, Northern Ireland Secretary, withdraws 500-strong Third Battalion Parachute Regiment from Northern Ireland to Aldershot, UK, marking first troop reduction since IRA agreed to cease-fire in July 1997. About 16,500 troops remain, including 4,800 of the locally recruited Royal Irish Regiment.

16

AZERBAIJAN

Oil-boom anxiety: Companies from 12 nations move into Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan for oil field considered larger than Persian Gulf. Oil pipelines out of area would pass through areas in conflict, causing military strategists to view Caspian Sea as new world hot spot.

17

SRI LANKA

Rebels launch three attacks near Mankulam, losing 50 men. Jayasikuru (Certain Victory) operation begins third phase of six month offense in November as elements of the elite Special Forces unit seized in Pullyankulam. Rebels resist with mortar barrages. Rebel bomb in Kelantissa power plant blacks out portion of Colombo, marking second consecutive bombing on "full moon day," when Sri Lankan offices nearly empty.

World Sitrep is compiled in part from the biweekly newsletter *For Your Eyes Only: An Open Intelligence Summary of Current Military Affairs*. Published by Tiger Publications (P.O. Box 8759, Dept. SOF, Amarillo, Texas 79114-8759); subscriptions are \$70 per year (26 issues), \$74.38 in Texas. Sample issue available for \$3. Those interested in world intel are encouraged to subscribe.

Happy Hallways

Hallways are by definition a corridor or passage in a building. Corridors are by definition a passageway into which compartments or rooms open or a restricted lane such as an air-traffic corridor. These hallways, corridors, or passageways restrict flows of movement and are generally found in connection with doors, corners, and stairs.

Tactically, hallways or "slots" are historically significant. One good example would be in World War II where "the Slot" was near Guadalcanal, in the Solomon Islands. This "hallway" led into an area that became grimly known as Iron Bottom Bay, because of the great number of naval vessels sunk there during the campaign. What made the Slot so dangerous? Hallways, corridors or slots, regardless of what they are called, produce a funnel effect that results in two fighting formats: one of defense and the other of offense. The advantages or disadvantages are based upon whose ox is being gored.

Speaking from a defensive posture, there are notable assets to engaging your opponent in doorways, at corners, and definitely



Using a shoulder-mounted weapon such as a rifle or shotgun requires backing away from the doorway when it is opened. The hallway restricts lateral movement to cover. Stay to one side to minimize exposure in the kill zone.



To clear areas, work the angles by slicing visually and using the muzzle in support. What will you do if you make contact? Where was your last cleared position?

in hallways simply because their movement is restricted and their exposure is greatest while at the same time their available cover is negligible. It also makes sense tactically to try to get your opponent to move into this restricted area or kill zone and keep him there as long as possible. The military application of concertina wire is a great example. The wire really doesn't stop the threat, it just funnels or moves them to an area where there is a really big machine gun.

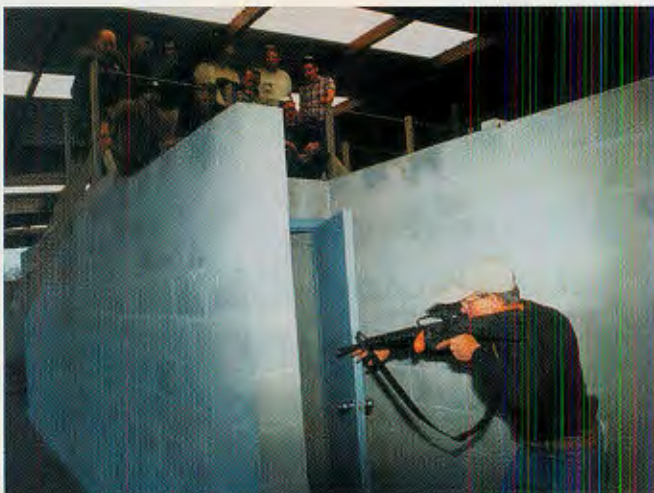
Opponents can sometimes provide themselves portable cover by using projectile resistant barriers or shields. In some cases, target acquisition can be impaired by covering openings across hallways with a "screening" material that may not stop rounds but impairs your ability to see, and thereby your ability to hit. Although it has

been more than a hundred years ago there is a great example of these concepts applied without the benefit of today's modern technology. In October 1884, after a serious disagreement with a local bully, the self-appointed lawman of Frisco, New Mexico, one Elfege Baca, found himself in a dug-out shed surrounded by about 80 of the bully's well-armed friends. These hostile cowboys were intent on giving Mr. Baca additional bodily orifices by applied gunfire to the tune of about 4,000 rounds.

Not being one to give up easily, the fight went on to the point that the cowboys restricted Mr. Baca's corridors, or fields of fire ("halls," if you will), by stretching bedroll blankets across openings between buildings so he couldn't see to shoot at them. It is of interest that the cowboys attempted to "assault" Mr. Baca's position head on by removing an iron stove from inside a building and pushing it in front of them toward his position while using it as cover, sort of a yesterday tactical shield. Tactical theory is timeless.

The length of your hallway or corridor, of course, dictates the potential exposure time that you will have to engage the threat. Anything that can be added to slow the forward momentum of your opponent is helpful. Furniture, debris, gunfire or bright lights all serve to retard forward movement.

Once movement is slowed or stopped the only deciding criteria in the hallway is who can provide the best base of fire to stop and



When you stop off, keep the muzzle between yourself and the threat. Remember, don't lead with the muzzle around the corner or into a room or doorway.

hold any forward movement. If your opponent can suppress you enough that they are able to maneuver ahead *toward you*, you are in trouble. As mentioned previously, those law-enforcement personnel required to move forward may be able to use a ballistic shield. The quality of these shields is constantly improving and the adaptation of wheels and firing apertures make them structurally able to stop higher-powered rounds of ammunition.

Representatives of the private sector should avoid, to the best of their ability, hallways, and fighting in them. Citizens who find themselves in these hallways or funnels should try to move through them smoothly and quickly with the least amount of exposure time. When moving down the hall you have two choices: Number one is to stay close to the wall to minimize yourself as a target. Two is to move down the middle of the hall to reduce the potential of being hit by ricochets or flying debris. But whichever choice you make, move quickly and deliberately.

Approach the doors, corners and openings such as windows with caution. Visually slice the opening with your eyes using the muzzle of your weapon in support. Do not lead into the opening with your elbow, foot, brim of your hat or the muzzle! Work from the right side of the hall to clear the left corner then back up, cross over and work from the left side of the hall to clear the right corner visually. Look as far into the area you are clearing as possible. Use fixtures inside the room to help you clear it. Look at mirrors, windows or anything that would reflect or shine the movements or location of possible threats.

This brings us to a very strong point of interest, you should never have a tactical



When preparing to move down a hallway, look as far ahead as possible. Hallways can be long, narrow, wide or short — but they are all dangerous!



problem in your own home. Clear it now and practice often so you get it right. Set mirrors and furniture to your advantage to help you clear areas without entering. Proper placement of a mirror can help you look down a hallway before you stick your head in. There is the thought that your opponent could look back and see you, but I would rather that they see me in the mirror than shoot me in the head as I attempt to clear an area.

Before I start down a hallway I try to remember the last safe place that I cleared in case the hallway becomes untenable and I must retreat. There will be a hallway that can't be cleared by going straight ahead and you had better consider it. You will either

back up or be stuffed in a bag. Don't apply the logic that says, "Well, they may get me, but my buddies will get them." The bottom line is the same — you'll be in the bag.

Movement in a hallway that restricts movement and flow is very dangerous. There are many choices, as mentioned before. But whenever you're moving, your muzzle should be between you and the threat so you can protect yourself. If you can maneuver with someone in support of your movement to give you supporting fire, do so. Last, but not least, the wise and prudent person would plan a method of organized withdrawal to cope with the worst-case scenario. Happy hallways! ☒



Introducing the Latest Edition of The Nobel Sport® Handloading Manual for both U.S. and European Metallic Cartridges.

Provides time tested loads for what will be the new standard for performance in North America.

VECTAN POWDERS, one of the most respected powders in the world, are produced by Nobel Sport, founded in 1688. These powders will be available in the United States beginning January 1998 exclusively through **ADCO SALES INC.**

These quality powders feature:

- High velocities
- Popular prices
- Low pressures
- Extremely clean burns

Shooters, Hunters and dyed-in-the-wool enthusiasts, pick up your copy of this comprehensive manual. It will be invaluable as these world class powders become available in North America.

ADCO... always setting new standards in the firearms industry.

We have the future in our sightsSM



ADCO SALES INC.
 4 Draper Street, Woburn, MA 01801
 (781)935-1799 FAX: (781)935-1011
www.adcosales.com

97-8

See us at S.H.O.T. Show Booth #2869.

Nobel Sport is a trademark of Nobel Sport, Inc. Marketed in North America by ADCO Sales Inc.

Cash, Kalashnikovs and Cabindans

Petrobucks Fuel Ongoing Angolan Angst

“It’s largely inactive and lingers on the periphery as a threat to Angola’s national security.” That’s what one learned analyst says about the separatist guerrillas in Cabinda Province.

On 28 July, at approximately 0200 hours, Francisco and Jose looked at each other nervously. Lying in the thick undergrowth, the buzz of mosquitoes insistent in their ears, they gripped their stockless, dirty, and poorly maintained Kalashnikovs with sweaty palms. Cabindan separatist guerrillas on a night-time mission against government troops; we can only imagine what flashed through their minds on this, the last night of their lives.

The two Cabindan guerrillas were part of a military unit belonging to FLEC (*Frente de Liberacion de Enclave de Cabinda* — Front for the Liberation of the Enclave of Cabinda) which attacked an Angolan army armor unit’s motor pool. The tankers, based near Subantando and Bungo Fuana, got a wake-up call courtesy of FLEC sappers running amok in their compound. Overrunning a portion of the perimeter the guerrillas engaged Angolan troops and their six Soviet-supplied tanks with AK-47s and maritime emergency flares (stolen from the nearby Cabinda Gulf Oil Company’s Malongo oil terminal). Not smart. The Angolan tankers merely fired off all their main guns and hosed the perimeter with their 12.7mm machine guns, waxing, reportedly, 30 FLEC separatists.

Oil-rich and heavily forested, the 2,807 square mile Cabinda enclave (1986 pop. est. 114,000) is separated

from Angola proper by a 40-kilometer strip of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (former Zaire) and the Congo River and is bordered by the Republic of the Congo (Brazzaville) to the north. After 12 years of exploration, oil was discovered off the coast of Cabinda by Gulf Oil in 1966.

Production from the large off-shore reserves has been non-stop since 1968. Chevron’s Cabinda Gulf Oil

Company (CABGOC) holds a 39.2% share while Sonangol, the Angolan national oil company, retains another 41%. Cabinda is the Angolan oil industry with the Cabinda concession accounting for most of Angola’s output with estimat-

ed revenues of more than \$1.5 billion a year. The region, however, has not benefited from the oil wealth; Chevron spent just \$3 million locally on service contracts in 1994. Such economic disparity fuels resentment of the government and persistent fighting by Cabindan separatists. FLEC’s aim is to free Cabinda from Angolan rule and use the petrodollars to develop the local economy and directly benefit (maybe) Cabinda’s inhabitants.

Cabinda was the scene of heavy fighting during the war for independence (1961-75). The dense Mayombe forests provided sanctuaries for MPLA guerrillas in their war against the Portuguese colonialists. Today, the same forests harbor FLEC guerrillas. Present-day Cabindan separatists base their claim for independence on the 1885 Treaty of Simulambuco, which first linked the enclave to Angola while recognizing its special status. The treaty

Text & Photos by
Rob Krott



Cabinda City. Poverty, disease, violence ... and billions in oil. (below) The Governor's Residence, Cabinda City.

was an attempt by Portugal to consolidate its African empire and protect it from further encroachment by the French, Belgians, and British. For the Cabindans it was an opportunity to escape the Belgian Congo's forced-labor levies.

The Portuguese didn't want to lose Cabinda in the 1960s and neither do the Angolans today. With the economy in shambles, one of the worlds' worst inflation rates, and an infrastructure destroyed by nearly three decades of war Angola desperately needs Cabinda's oil revenues. In the past few years Angola has become sub-Saharan Africa's largest arms purchaser. Increasing the national debt substantially, weapons procurement has reached record levels, even surpassing the huge influx of Soviet arms at the height of the war against UNITA in the 1980s. After UNITA renewed the civil war following the 1992 elections the government revoked the Bicesse Accords' Triple Zero arms embargo and went on an arms-buy-

ing spree to the tune of \$3.5 billion in 1993 and 1994. Angola's total daily oil production is more than 500,000 barrels of oil a day (current production in Cabinda is 430,000 barrels a day and expected to reach 600,000 a day by 2002). It is rumored that the next seven years' oil production is currently mortgaged.

Back To The Sixties

The early 1960s saw the formation of several separatist movements in Cabinda. In the forefront was the *Mouvement pour la Liberation de l'Enclave de Cabinda* (Movement for the Liberation of the Enclave of Cabinda — MLEC). Another group, Antonio Eduardo Sozinho's *Alliance de Mayombe* (Alliama) represented the Mayombe, the indigenous people of Cabinda's jungle interior. An MLEC faction led by Henrique N'Zita Tiago seceded in December 1961 and formed the *Comite d'Acton d'Union Nationale de Cabinda* (Action Committee for the National Union of Cabindans — CAUC). These three separatist groups united in 1963 as *Frete para a Libertacao do Enclave de Cabinda* (the Front for the Liberation of the Enclave of Cabinda — FLEC). The next year, when the MPLA-FAPLA began using Cabinda as a sanctuary, its troops encountered hostility from FLEC guerrillas from the coastal region around Cabinda city and from the Mayombe region. These FLEC guerrillas effectively controlled the Congo frontier region which the MPLA guerrillas were crossing on their infiltrations into Angola. In 1967, FLEC set up their government in exile in Tshela, Zaire, with Nzita's FLEC faction forming the *Comité Revolutionnaire Cabindais* in Pointe Noire, Congo.

Since 1963, FLEC waged an on-again, off-again independence struggle, first against the Portuguese and then against the MPLA regime until the movement almost died out in the mid-1980s. Zaire's withdrawal of support in the late 1970s, including a failed CIA-sponsored invasion (see sidebar) and the concentration of large numbers of Cuban and FAPLA troops in Cabinda caused a decline in FLEC's fortunes. As in many insurgencies, mounting internal dissension soon caused FLEC to break into five factions — three of which have remained marginally active. The frag-

mentation of such a small and mostly independent (there was intermittent covert support from Zaire over the years) guerrilla movement was especially disastrous. The Cabindan separatist movement would no longer have either the manpower or the resources to significantly challenge the Angolan government's sovereignty of Cabinda. Today, FLEC's two major divisions are FLEC-FAC (*Forças Armadas de Cabinda*) and FLEC-Renovada (Renewal). Henrique N'Zita Tiago is the "president" of FLEC-FAC, and Jose Tiburcio headed FLEC-Renovada until a recent schism resulted in a change of leadership.

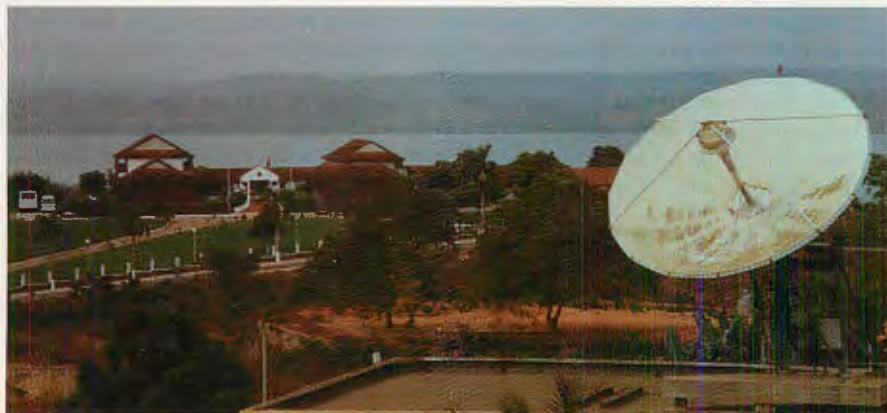
Negotiations resulted in further setbacks for the hardline advocates of Cabinden independence. Luanda granted an unofficial amnesty in 1983 and in 1985 the government signed a cease-fire agreement and began further negotiations. President Dos Santos recently initiated a limited autonomy plan and an economic aid package which increases the share of Angola's oil revenues spent on Cabinda from 1% to 10%; but a drop in the huge oil bucket. Cabindans are skeptical of Luanda's offers of autonomy.

Two Decades Of War

With the help of over 10,000 Cuban combat troops and massive Soviet arms shipments the MPLA defeated the rival FNLA and shortly thereafter (January 1976) the South Africans withdrew to Namibia leaving Jonas Savimbi's UNITA alone in the field. While UNITA's fortunes have ebbed and flowed with Savimbi's guerrillas controlling significant amounts of territory, including Angola's diamond fields, UNITA never had a significant power base in Cabinda. Although it was forced to fight the Zairean-backed FLEC while at the same time engaged in a decades-long struggle with UNITA, the MPLA retained control of the enclave.

In the years following independence FLEC remained active in northern Angola and in Cabinda, but in 1978 President Neto of Angola and President Mobutu Sese-Seko of Zaire signed an agreement to improve relations — mutually ending support of opposition groups from the neighboring state.

Despite peace on the Zairean border, war continued to rage in Angola proper. From



1978 to 1988, Angola was the object of military raids by South African troops in Namibia, ostensibly striking at the bases of guerrillas seeking Namibian independence while UNITA continued their guerrilla war against the MPLA's Marxist government. In 1988, Cuba and South Africa agreed to remove Cuban and South African troops from Angola: The South Africans left in 1988 and the Cubans completed their withdrawal in 1991.

The government and UNITA signed a cease-fire agreement in 1991 that called for unified armed forces, a market economy, and free elections in 1992. When President Jose Eduardo do Santos and the MPLA defeated Savimbi (aka O Mais Velho – “The Wise One”) and UNITA in the 1992 election (regarded as generally fair), UNITA denounced the results as rigged and resumed fighting, taking control of two-thirds of Angola before a stalemate ensued.

Chaos In Cabinda

During the general elections FLEC called for a province-wide boycott of the government's voter registration. Their support was evident: Only 16,000 signed up to vote; most were police, military, MPLA political hacks, and government employees.



Rural living conditions? No, this is a residential area in Cabinda City. The reflected poverty is FLEC's number-1 recruitment tool.

After the elections a dramatic uprising occurred in Cabinda. Hundreds of FAPLA troops, many just teenagers clad in ragged uniforms and carrying Kalashnikovs, rampaged through the center of Cabinda city killing nine civilians and spraying the seaside residence of Governor Augusto da Silva Tomas with automatic-weapons fire.

He escaped his seaside residence on the



Cabindan Intrigue: FLEC, MOBUTU, SDECE and the CIA

Cabinda, coveted by Mobutu since his usurpation of power in 1965, became even more attractive to the Zairean dictator with the discovery of offshore oil. During the war for independence in Angola, Mobutu saw his chance to annex Cabinda.

The Portuguese government sat down with representatives of the MPLA, UNITA, and FAPLA in January 1975, and signed an agreement stating “Cabinda is an integral and indivisible part of Angola.” Mobutu knew he had to act soon and, in October '75, approached the CIA. John Stockwell, former chief of the CIA's Angola Task Force, wrote in his *In Search of Enemies*: “We promptly flew in a one-thousand-man arms package for use in the invasion, and CIA officers of the Kinshasha station began to visit the FLEC training camp to coordinate. On November 2, a joint invasion force launched a three-column attack against the MPLA defenders, who were reinforced with Cuban advisors. They were accompanied by a half-dozen French mercenaries, not that they made any difference. The Cuban/MPLA force easily held Cabinda.”

Stockwell believes the mercenaries were hired by the French intelligence service, the SDECE. France had its eye on Cabinda, as well, and the SDECE had long been involved with Cabindan separatists. FLEC's leader, Luis Ranque Franque, had supposedly spent his entire life in Zaire and had close ties to Gulf Oil. While Franque was in Zaire, there was also a FLEC “general staff” in Congo-Brazzaville.

In August 1975, Franque proclaimed Cabindan independence in preparation for Mobutu's CIA/SDECE-backed invasion. However, prior to this, FLEC had split. August Tchioufou, a close friend of President Bongo of Gabon, led FLEC-Congo. Tchioufou was also a former assistant director of ELF-Congo, the local subsidiary of the French multinational oil company (ELF which obviously had its own designs on Cabinda currently controls 10% of the oil production there). Tchioufou and FLEC-Congo used SDECE agents to recruit a number of French mercenaries. The mercs were to operate with FLEC guerrillas to sabotage Gulf's drilling operations. They quickly tied back to the Congo where Tchioufou had been ousted and replaced by Alfred Raoul, a former Congolese officer, and his half-brother Jean da Costa, a French army veteran of Indochina and Tunisia with close ties to local SDECE agents. The CIA soon funneled \$250,000 to the SDECE for its mercenary recruitment efforts.

The mercenaries took part in the failed November invasion. Soon after returning to France one participant told *Jeune Afrique* magazine, “We sent the guys from FLEC out in front of us to probe the area. It was a massacre. We stayed behind, chugging down beers, and when things went bad we got out of there.”

Gulf Oil had to halt operations and evacuate its employees.

hill just south of Cabinda hospital by climbing out a window, running down the hillside to Cabinda harbor and fleeing to Soyo by boat.

During the next two days there was effectively no government as FAPLA soldiers, previously under attack by FLEC guerrillas, roamed the streets of Cabinda drunk on palm wine and cheap African scotch threatening their officers and demanding discharge papers. The situation reached a state of near-anarchy. With the near collapse of FAPLA in Cabinda FLEC began freely roaming the coastal road from Cabinda north to Pointe-Noire and ambushed a vehicle carrying Miguel Fernando Nzambi, a senior Cabindan police officer, murdered him and dumped his body in the Chiloango River.

Cabindan Oil For Cabindans

On Sunday, 2 January 1994, FLEC-FAC mortared the oil-production terminal at Malongo necessitating the hurried evacuation of Chevron oil workers. The installation suffered minimal damage as FLEC dropped in a few rounds before its phantom mortar men melted into the jungle. The mortar attack was justified by FLEC-FAC's Henrique N'Zita Tiago in a Radio France International broadcast two days later:

"The oil which is to be found in Cabinda belongs to Cabindans." Nearly two years later (October 1995) FLEC signed a ceasefire agreement with the Angolan government but the very next month the separatists attacked on-shore oil facilities.

In early June 1996, FLEC-R violated their agreement with the government and began actively recruiting young men for their armed units and FLEC-FAC commandants authorized the press-gang of teenagers to swell their insurgent ranks. Weeks later, FLEC guerrillas ambushed a patrol near Buco Zau killing four FAA soldiers, an action trumpeted by FLEC's Brazzaville office claiming that since 15 May 1996 the FAA had deployed 5,000 troops in Cabinda in response to their attacks.

The situation remained tense with separatist forces building up their armed guerrilla units and conducting harassing attacks on FAA troops and Angolan police until 11 April [1997], when the Angolan government and FLEC-Renovada announced a ceasefire agreement. Talks were held between the two antagonists in Windhoek, Namibia, under the auspices of President Sam Nujoma of Namibia. Despite an agreement between the antagonists to develop a "mechanism for a peace plan" a lasting peace was not in the offing.

New Offensives And Deserters

In the spring of 1997, there was also a large influx of foreigners (mostly Chinese, Filipinos, and Malaysians) from the Congo to the Wandakousoubi area, about

Continued on page 84



Cabindans still use this village water hole for bathing, washing, and drinking water (above). Land mines, circled below, while not as prevalent as in other parts of Angola, are still a lethal menace.



Who's Who Of Angolan Acronyms

- FAA** *Forças Armadas Angolanas* (Angolan Armed Forces) — the new, post-election military of the Angolan government
- FAPLA** *Forças Armadas para a Libertação de Angola* — Angola's pre-election armed forces
- FLEC** *Frente de Libertação de Enclave de Cabinda* — Front for the Liberation of the Enclave of Cabinda
- FNLA** *Frente Nacional de Libertação de Angola* — National Front for the Liberation of Angola
- MONUA** U.N. Observer Mission in Angola. Approximately 4,000 peacekeepers of UNAVEM III retained in Angola until October 1997, after the UNAVEM II mandate expired in June 1997.
- MPLA** *Movimento Popular de Libertação de Angola* (Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola) — the governing party of Angola — one of the three groups which fought for independence it subsequently defeated, with Soviet and Cuban support, the FNLA and UNITA.
- UNAVEM** United Nations Angolan Verification Mission
- UNITA** *União Nacional para a Independência Total de Angola* (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola) *FALA* (*Forças Armadas de Libertação de Angola*) UNITA's army.

BEST OF THE BULLPUPS!

**SOF T&Es
Vektor's
CR21**

Text & Photos by
Peter G. Kokalis



A considerable amount of controversy has always swirled about bullpup infantry rifles. Although the Steyr AUG bullpup has recently found favor in the law-enforcement community as a tactical carbine for dynamic entry teams in lieu of the more traditional pistol-caliber submachine gun, this configuration has never been popular with the U.S. Armed Forces.

It is, in fact, a British invention. In August 1902, British engineer J.B. Thornycroft presented a prototype bolt-action rifle to the British War Office for consideration by the Small Arms Committee. In trials it was not impressive and all official interest in the Thornycroft design ceased by 1903.

During the early part of 1944, work started at Enfield Lock on the design of a new bullpup sniper rifle. Called the Sniper Rifle Experimental Model I (SREM I), the weapon featured a radical design. The bolt traveled in a metal housing inclined 12 degrees below the bore's axis. The bolt was operated by a pistol grip which carried an arm engaging a cammed slot on the right side of the bolt. Rearward movement of the pistol grip first rotated the bolt to unlock it and then retracted it. But military weapons technology was firmly dedicated to self-loading rifles and the bullpup sniper rifle project was abandoned in 1945 at the war's end. Despite the slide into post-war obscurity, the early research had sparked some continuing interest.

Early efforts culminated in the controversial, ill-fated British EM-2 bullpup design, which was effectively torpedoed by the Americans in the 1952 light rifle trials held at Aberdeen Proving Ground. As a consequence, the British ended up by adopting an inch-equivalent of the FN FAL. However, eventually the British went back to the bullpup concept and launched the incredibly dreadful SA80 caliber 5.56x45mm NATO bullpup in 1985 at a cost of \$800 million.

During the early 1950s, when the so-called light rifle concept was being developed by the NATO countries, *Fabrique Nationale* in Belgium produced a prototype carbine (serial no. 3) which was a bullpup design by Dieudonne Saive. But the project was subverted by the dictatorial Director General of FN, Rene Laloux. French weapons engineers also took a long look at bullpup technology and produced their own prototypes. One of these — the FAMAS F1 — became a general-issue weapon in the French army more than two decades ago.

Using the Johnson/Stoner rotary bolt, the Enfield EM-2 layout and a host of carefully considered innovations, the Austrian firm of Steyr Daimler Puch, AG, fielded a bullpup called the AUG (Army Universal Gewehr-rifle). Adopted by the Austrian army in 1977 — where it is called the StG 77 (SturmGewehr-assault rifle-1977) — it has become one of the most familiar bullpup weapons in the world.

Compact For Combat

The bullpup's salient feature is compactness. By definition, a bullpup's barrel group is moved well back into the stock and both action and magazine are placed behind the trigger assembly. Ejection of spent cartridge casings occurs close to the shooter's face and some critics claim bullpups are inappropriate for left-handers.

(opposite) New South African CR21 caliber 5.56x45mm NATO infantry rifle, which may eventually prove to be the best of the bullpups. To commence fieldstripping the CR21, the sling swivel pin must be removed. The ambidextrous selector lever is somewhat longer on this pre-production prototype than current production-series specimens. Although the grip area is somewhat reminiscent of the Steyr AUG, the CR21's overall appearance is both startling and innovative.

Other critics — particularly those with combat experience in confined areas — claim the bullpup design forces a soldier to expose too much of his body when firing around corners. But, bullpup advocates have their own reasoned response to all that.

Only 20% of the world's population is left-handed, they argue, and most of them can be trained to fire effectively from the opposite shoulder. Even southpaws who can't manage the switch can be equipped with bullpups modified to accommodate them. The Steyr AUG features a left-side ejection option and the French FAMAS F1 extractor can be moved to either the right or left sides, as can the cheek rest, to provide for ejection on either side.

In addition, those who favor bullpups say shooting around corners is not healthy, so soldiers armed with shoulder-mounted weapons should not be taught to do so. I have personally employed left-side barricade positions with the Steyr AUG that provide as much cover as you can expect firing from the right side. The bullpup debate will continue unabated well into the foreseeable future.

In the meantime, the South African firm, Vektor, formerly a division of LIW, (Dept. SOF, P.O. Box 5445, Pretoria 0001, South Africa; phone: 27-12-620-2103; fax: 27-12-620-2407) has just introduced a new caliber 5.56x45mm bullpup infantry rifle called the CR21 (Compact Rifle, 21st Century). A company highly respected throughout the world, with a proven track record in defense products ranging from handguns to automatic cannons, Vektor's CR21 demands serious consideration.

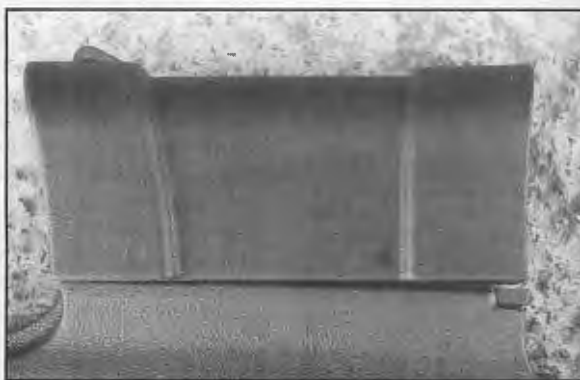
21st Century Bullpup

The CR21's unique stock configuration is the result of a complex design process between Vektor and Pentagraph, an internationally respected and well-known industrial design firm that was responsible for the exterior envelope of Vektor's racy-looking CP1 pistol (See "Slickest Compact Nine Ever?" September '94). These graphic, product and environmental

design consultants were commissioned to design a package that would propel Vektor's bullpup into the 21st century. They have, in my opinion, succeeded. The stock, a polymer injection molding, consists of two major components: the stock itself and a top cover. The top cover can be removed by a latch at the bottom of the buttstock. This provides access to the working parts and also a storage compartment. A cleaning rod and other maintenance equipment are stored inside the stock housing along the top right side. A more elastic polymer (except for the scope housing which must remain rigid) than that used in the CP1 pistol's frame has been employed, because the rifle is heavier and must pass more severe drop testing. There is provision for the attachment of a bayonet.

There is also a polymer accessory attachment bracket at the rear which interfaces the rear end of the receiver body to the stock housing. A number of features have been incorporated into the design to allay the user's potential fear of a bullpup-type rifle "blowing up" in his face. The sight base is attached by a pin on each side to add rigidity to the front of the receiver. The entire selector system, including its axis pin, is made of polymer. In the highly unlikely case of a blowup when the system is in battery, the scope mount would force the direction of the blast downward.

Overall weight of the CR21, empty, is 8.4 pounds (3.8 kilograms). Overall length of the rifle is 29.9 inches (760 mm). The barrel length is 18.1 inches (460 mm). The barrel has been manufactured from cold-forged steel and features a hard-chrome-lined bore and chamber. The six-groove rifling is provided with a right-hand twist of one turn in 9 inches. This has become a popular rate of twist for SS109-type ball ammunition, as the 1:7-inch twist adopted by the United States is too fast and was dictated by requirement to stabilize L110-type tracer ammunition which features a long projec-



CR21 optical sight is a reflex type using fiber optics at the objective end to gather light. For more rapid target acquisition it features only 1X magnification. An amber-colored tritium capsule inside the housing illuminates the triangular aiming point in the dark.



The magazine catch/release is directly in back of the magazine and similar to that of the R4. Like other Kalashnikov types, the magazine must be rocked forward for release from the magazine-well. A 20-round magazine is standard, but 35-, 30-, 25-, 15-, 10- and 5-round capacities are also available.

tile. A Vortex-type flash hider, with a spring for holding rifle grenades, has been attached to the end of the barrel. The most effective flash hider ever designed, there is no detectable flash signature. A molybdenum paint of the dry-film lubricant-type — extremely tough and both corrosion-resistant and high-temperature-resistant — has been baked over the exterior of the steel components.

The safety is in front of the trigger. Of the so-called cross-bolt-type, it must be pushed from right to left to fire the weapon. The ambidextrous selector lever is located at the rear of the buttstock on each side (and is now shorter than the one shown in *SOF*'s photos of early prototypes). International picture symbols are used to indicate semiautomatic or full-auto in production-series versions. They are raised for tactile recognition. The selector system is in the opposite sense as that of the Kalashnikov. The upper position will provide semiautomatic fire. The bottom position will produce full-auto fire.

Modern Magazines

The magazine catch/release is directly in back of the magazine and similar to that of the R4. Like other Kalashnikov types, the magazine must be rocked forward for release from the magazine-well.

Similar to those of the South African R4 rifle, CR21 detachable staggered-column, two-position-feed, box-type magazines contain only four components (a steel follower spring, nylon follower, floor-plate and body). The body is a one-piece injection molding. The follower ends are closed to inhibit the accumulation of debris. More durable than steel, and just as reliable, these nylon magazines can absorb tremendous shock without damage. Their strength and drop tests surpass steel and, of course, they're not susceptible to corrosion. Impervious to all commonly encountered cleaning solutions, Vektor's magazines have successfully passed accelerated ultraviolet tests (five years of exposure lying on a steel plate on Vektor's roof)

with only slight discoloration. Cold weather tests were conducted without failure of any kind. Tests indicated an endurance life of more than 20,000 rounds. A 20-round magazine will be standard with the CR21, however, 35-, 30-, 25-, 15-, 10- and 5-round capacities are also available.

The cocking handle is located on the left side and is of the non-reciprocating type. It is a polymer injection molding and does not fold down. It is, therefore, considerably more robust than the hinged Heckler & Koch type. The rifle's bolt carrier has a stud welded to its top which engages a rod to which the cocking handle is attached.

There is a molded socket that serves as a sling mounting point at the front of the rifle on top of the stock. At the rear, the sling swivel can be changed over from the right or left sides. This permits a number of different carrying options and allows the rifle to be fired from a slinged position.

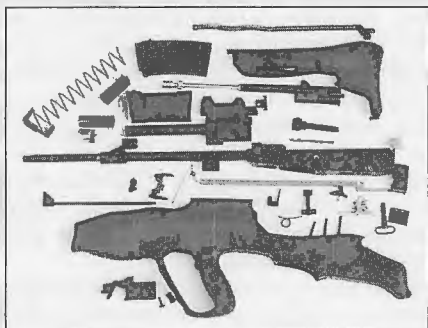
A gas relief hole in the top of the stock is located directly over three ports in the gas cylinder. There is one ventilating port on top of the buttstock and three on the bottom. A polymer heat shield inside the stock protects the forearm area. At the front of the stock, a glass-filled phenolic bushing, surrounding the barrel and touching it at only three points, also permits heat transference to the atmosphere. All of this is quite effective, as the CR21 has passed all cook-off tests performed on it, including firing 350 rounds as quickly as possible.

A considerable amount of design effort was directed toward the CR21's optical sight. For more rapid target acquisition it features only IX magnification. This is a reflex-type sight using fiber optics at the objective end to gather light. The intensity

Method Of Operation

The CR21's method of operation remains identical to the Kalashnikov's. It fires from the closed-bolt position and is gas-operated without an adjustable regulator.

When the trigger is pulled, the hammer drives the firing pin forward to ignite the primer. After ignition of the primer, a portion of the propellant gases migrates into the 1.8mm-diameter gas port, tapped at a 24-degree angle to the gas block which is pinned to the barrel. The gas enters the cylinder (to which a small spring has been attached to secure its retention during reassembly) and drives the piston rearward.



CR21 bullpup, completely disassembled.

The piston is hard-chrome-plated for ease of maintenance. It is also notched to provide a reduced bearing surface and permit excess gas blow-by. The bolt carrier is permanently attached to the piston. After a short amount of free travel, during which time the gas pressure drops to a safe level, the cam slot engages the bolt's cam pin and the bolt is rotated and unlocked as the carrier moves rearward.

Primary extraction occurs as the bolt is rotated, and thus a massive Kalashnikov-type extractor claw is not required. Empty case ejection is typically violent, in the manner of all Kalashnikovs. The cases are

severely dented by the ejector and thrown to the right and downward. At this time, the recoil spring is compressed and its return energy drives the carrier forward to strip a round from the magazine and chamber it.

Two sears control the firing mechanism, the trigger sear and an auto-safety sear. In full-auto fire, the trigger sear is held back and only the first round of the burst is fired off this rear sear. Subsequently, the bolt carrier moves rearward and rolls the hammer over. The auto-safety sear continues to hold the hammer back until the bolt carrier is fully forward again, at which time it trips the auto-safety sear and the hammer rotates to fire another round. Thus, after the first round, the trigger sear is deactivated entirely from control on the hammer. Releasing the trigger will catch the hammer on the trigger sear once more. In semiautomatic fire, no pressure is placed upon the trigger sear, which is free to catch the hammer each time it is rolled back by the bolt carrier.

— P.G.K.

of the aiming point — a solid triangle — is self-adjusting. A triangle presents a more precise aiming point for long range shooting than a round dot. The triangle fits into a 5-6 MOA circle. An amber-colored tritium capsule inside the housing illuminates the triangular aiming point in the dark. Amber is easier to see than red. The optical sight uses no batteries and thus has no switches — important advantages over red-dot-type sights.

The optical sight can be removed from the rifle by drifting out two roll pins. This presents the opportunity to install other sighting devices or to easily replace a damaged unit. Two pockets in the scope housing interface with two pillars on the stock. This optical sight is compatible with monocular or binocular night vision devices. This is an important advantage for the modern soldier, as replacing the scope with night vision equipment requires the operator to scan the terrain with the weapon itself. Adjustment of elevation and windage zero is by means of two screws, one on the front and the other on the right side. These screws can be turned with the rim of a cartridge case. The scope base is milled from a solid block of aluminum and attached to the barrel and receiver. Thus when the barreled action is removed from the stock, the optical sight remains with these components.

While the ejection port is located on the right side of the CR21's stock, the rifle can be fired from either the left or right side without changing any components. This is the consequence of a polymer deflector plate at the top of the ejection port which directs empty cases downward and away from the operator.

The long trigger bar required of bullpup designs runs along the right side of the stock's interior. It engages a hole in the rear trigger. The rear trigger itself has only a right-side hook — unlike most Kalashnikovs which have a hook on each side. This makes the trigger-pull weight a bit lighter and involves less machine work.

While it is free floating, the firing pin does not duplicate that of the R4. R4 firing pin assemblies include a synthetic bushing and steel flat washer retained by a pin through a small hole at the rear end of the striker. This was done to prevent so-called "ghost shots." Lighter than the R4's striker and made of stainless steel, the CR21's firing pin has an AK configuration, with no bushing. Its large diameter head precludes ignition of more sensitive primers during cocking.

To remove the main operating components from the stock housing, first remove the magazine and clear the weapon by retracting the bolt, then press the trigger to release the hammer. Push up on the sling swivel's axis-pin lock and remove the sling swivel pin. Then separate the barreled action and scope from the stock. Further disassembly duplicates that associated with all Kalashnikov-type rifles. The gas cylinder can be removed by merely pushing out its retaining pin. The gas cylinder can then be withdrawn from the rear.

Kalashnikov Upgrades

Although the grip area is somewhat reminiscent of the Steyr AUG, the CR21's overall appearance is both startling and innovative. South African R4 rifles and almost all Kalashnikov types can be con-



The stock, a polymer injection molding, consists of two major components: the stock itself and a top cover (not shown).

verted by Vektor to the CR21 configuration. The South African Defense Force is seriously considering an upgrade of all its R4 rifles to the CR21 format. With today's shrinking defense budgets this should prove to be an attractive alternative to countries equipped with aging R4s, Galils and Kalashnikovs.

My test firing of the CR21 demonstrated the reliability found with all Kalashnikov-type rifles. The accuracy potential is quite high — certainly far beyond the capabilities of other Kalashnikov-type rifles. It also scores high marks in both hit probability and target acquisition, when employed by a

experience and properly trained operator.

The recoil impulse is lower even than that associated with the R4, quite noticeably so in burst-fire sequences. This is undoubtedly a consequence of the in-line stock design and the wider and longer butt area which distributes the felt recoil over a larger area.

Bullpups such as the popular Steyr AUG can expect fierce competition from Vektor's CR21. In addition to more than matching any existing bullpup's performance capabilities, the CR21 provides the alluring prospect of the economical conversion of Kalashnikov rifles already in inventory and approaching replacement age. ✕

Vektor CR21

SPECIFICATIONS

Caliber:	5.56x45mm NATO (and potentially 7.62x39mm and 5.45x39mm).
Operation:	Locked-breech with rotary bolt; gas-operated; selective-fire capability; fires from the closed-bolt position.
Feed:	standard: 20-round detachable staggered-column, two-position-feed, box-type magazine; optional capacities: 35-, 30-, 25-, 15-, 10- and 5-rounds.
Weight, empty:	8.4 pounds (3.8 kilograms).
Length, overall:	29.9 inches (760 mm).
Barrel:	Cold-forged steel with six grooves and a right-hand twist of one turn in 9 inches; hard-chrome-lined bore and chamber.
Barrel length:	18.1 inches (460 mm).
Sights:	Reflex-type with fiber optics, 1X magnification, triangle aiming point with tritium illumination; mounted to the barrel and action.
Finish:	Molybdenum paint of the dry-film lubricant-type — extremely tough and both corrosion-resistant and high-temperature-resistant — baked over the exterior of steel components.
Manufacturer:	Vektor, Dept. SOF, P.O. Box 5445, Pretoria 0001, South Africa; phone: 27-12-620-2103; fax: 27-12-620-2407.
T&E summary:	Reliable Kalashnikov-type. High-accuracy potential. Low-recoil impulse. Excellent hit probability and rapid target acquisition. Extremely well-executed. 21st-century envelope. May eventually prove to be the best of the bullpups.



CR21 bullpup, fieldstripped

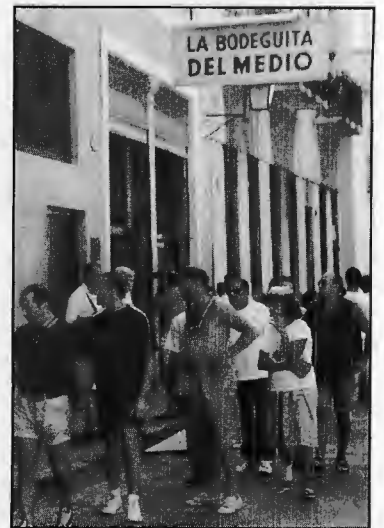
SOFT JUMPS INTO CUBA

Eyewitness To Castro's Sexual Revolution

Text & Photos by E. Lee Shippey



Fidel Castro was once known for his outspoken opposition to Cuba's tourism and decadence of the 1950s. Since the collapse of Soviet communism, however, Cuba has been forced to accept U.S. currency, tourism and flagrant prostitution as an economic necessity.





Sergeant First Class Jerry Lee went out first. Glancing to my right to watch the jumpmaster hook up my static line to the improvised anchor point, I quickly stood in the door and sounded off with "Listol" (Ready). The jumpmaster yelled back "Val" as he tapped me out.

Airborne! As my chute blossomed I looked past my G.I. jungle boots at the Cuban countryside. That's right, I'd just fulfilled a dream held by many Americans: I was parachuting into Cuba ...

I know some Americans who have slipped into Cuba. So I did my homework, then called an old friend and fellow airborne-qualified adventurer, Sergeant First Class Jerry Lee, a military police reservist. "The Gunner," as he's known, works in the auto industry and moonlights as a rock 'n roll radio DJ. When I called him and asked, "Wanna go to Cuba with

capital's tobacconists and buy all the H. Upmann Coronas he could find. The recently enacted Helms-Burton Act was intended to expand the "government's ability to impose civil penalties against U.S. citizens who violate the U.S. embargo." The civil penalty for violating the embargo is a fine of no more than \$55,000 per count; criminal prosecution calls for penalties of up to 10 years in prison and up to \$250,000 in fines, or both. No U.S. citizen has (as yet) been prosecuted for unauthorized travel to Cuba.

Welcome Aboard, Comrade

Jerry had joked that we should just drive to Miami, pick up a raft on the beach, and paddle it back to Havana. The *balseros* (rafters) crossing the treacherous 90 miles between Havana and Key West have increased in the past few years. At the height of the "boat people crisis" in August 1994, 35,000 Cubans fled to the U.S. via the sea. For some it's the only recourse after attempting other means of emigration: Anyone desiring to leave Fidel's socialist paradise is branded a dissident. Not being much of a sailor, I opted for a tourist flight from Toronto.

The flight was packed. After landing, young Cuban women at the airport flashed me smiles and beckoned enticingly from the other side of the terminal's plate-glass windows. These girls weren't wasting any time or chances.

me and make a jump?" his answer was "Can we go see the Bay of Pigs?"

Despite all that our primary motivation was a desire to experience first-hand what was left of the communist dream in Fidel's worker's paradise. I wanted to see Havana before Cuba became Cancun East and there was McDonald's on *el Malecon*. We planned our foray into Cuba like characters from a Cold War spy novel; only we weren't *Smiley's People*. There were reasons for our caution. An American, Walter Van Der Veer, 54, was arrested in August 1996, and accused of smuggling in U.S. military gear, of printing and distributing anti-Castro leaflets, and trying to obtain weapons. At the time of our visit he was tried and convicted of planning an armed revolt in Cuba. The Cubans were asking for the death penalty. Careful not to pack anything military, we took only our boots for the jump.

Travel to Cuba for U.S. citizens has been banned since JFK signed the embargo order in 1963. It's said that before he signed it he sent an aide out to scour the

They were looking to grab a sugar daddy right off the airplane before some other *puta* snagged him at the hotel bar. We were here: the last place on earth where Lenin busts are still popular office decorations.

We were in Varadero some 80-odd miles east of the capital. Known for its aquamarine water and clean beaches it was once the vacation spot for well-heeled Cubans. It is now a foreign resort, with most of the hotels and beaches off-limits to Cubans. Development has been ongoing since 1992. Our hotel, the Gran Hotel, a luxurious four-star resort, was finished in December 1996, and had been open less than a year.

Castro's Welcome Mat

Castro — previously outspoken regarding the excesses of tourism and the decadence of the 1950s, when Havana was known for its casinos and prostitutes — had changed his tune. The collapse of the Soviet Union, which once propped up the facade of international communism, forced Cuba to embrace tourism out of economic necessity. When disintegration of the socialist bloc created a core shortage of consumer goods and raw materials on the island, Cuba opened its economy and made drastic changes, including legalizing the possession of U.S. currency. Tourism was no longer decadent and evil: It was government approved.

Second only to sugar exports, tourism brings in \$700 million a year. A few thousand visitors per year trickled in during the 1970s. But since the recent development about 600,000 Canadians and Europeans visit Cuba every year. The Cuban Ministry of Tourism projects 1 million visitors per annum by the millennium.

Tourism is supposed to be the savior of Cuba's socialistic economy, but it's still a case of the haves and the have nots. Visitors to Cuba's revolutionary socialist utopia will encounter what I call tourism apartheid. While Communist Party members can sometimes gain admittance to certain tourist establishments with special admission tickets, most are officially and economically off-limits to Cubans.

The Cuban minimum wage is \$4 a month but a beer is \$2 or \$3 U.S. in tourist hotels. That's a few weeks of wages for many Cubans. The economic disparity is reflected in an oft-repeated joke: A Cuban mother asks her son what he wants to be when he grows up. "A tourist, mama!"

Cuba has always

depended on the largess of others, first the Spanish conquerors, later the American imperialists (and gangsters), then the Russians. Now it's the *touristas*. In response to my comment that new hotels were going up everywhere, a tour guide replied, "This is the new Cuba! The Cuba of the future!" I smiled cynically. Cuba once had a fairly decent middle-class standard of living and the best medical care in the Caribbean. But with an ill-maintained infrastructure and food-rationing, it's slipping back to poverty-ridden Third-World nation status. Many Cubans are unable to procure basic necessities such as soap and shampoo.

Jineteras Oozing Sex

Hotel security guards suggested I check out the nightlife by hitting the Varadero club scene — especially a disco called *La Bamba*. It would be a solo mission as Jerry, a married man, is habitually in the rack by 2100 hours.

La Bamba was an experience. Cuba just oozes sex in a way that only a tropical paradise settled by Latin-African peoples could. Everywhere I turned there were dusky-skinned, mini-skirted *Cubanas* winking and flashing beckoning smiles while giving me come-hither glances. There were so many pouty-lipped Gloria Estefan-lookalikes clad in spandex I was in sensory overload. Cuban author Jorge Luis Camacho, wrote in *The Monkey's Tail*, "The most beautiful gift Africa ever gave us are the curves of



(above) This British-built Sea Fury was used by Castro's air force to attack a Cuban-exile invasion force on the beach during Bay of Pigs. Castro's "tank," (left) an SAU-100 self-propelled gun, was used as his mobile command post.



Cuban women." I'll sign up for that.

The working girls are known as *jineteras de la calle* literally, jockeys of the street, meaning someone trying to get a leg up in Cuban society. Many Cuban women prefer European men. They have money. Things have come full circle. When Castro swept into Havana on New Year's Eve 1958, he promised to rid Cuba of the gambling, prostitution, and other excesses which gave the country the reputation of being "The Brothel of the Americas," to drive out the *Yanqui* scourge and restore the people's dignity. Yes, Castro may have temporarily shut down America's brothel, but since the fall of the Berlin Wall there's been a resurgence in prostitution and the Europeans have replaced the Yankees.

I fended off two or three *jineteras* as I made my way to the bar. No sooner did I have a cold one in hand when a young *Cubano*, hair tied back and looking like a low-rent Antonio Banderas, sidled up and said, "You want to meet my sister? She's very beautiful; she is a dancer in a nightclub show." Before he could tell me she was not only the headliner at the Tropicana but also a certified virgin, I waved him off. Later on I saw her, a strikingly beautiful brunette wearing a very classy beige pantsuit. One

thing about the *jineteras*: Some would put many a runway model to shame. I saw several blondes, tall, long-legged and painted into backless slit-skirt evening gowns.

Ouch. Cuba must be the spandex capital of the western hemisphere — short-shorts, minis, mini-dresses and bodysuits. What did Cuban women wear before spandex?

I quickly discovered this was no place for a single man desiring to maintain a firm hold on his wallet or his virtue. "Why you no dance? You dance with Felicia?"

How could a gentleman say no? In the interest of gathering intelligence for *SOF* readers I struck up a few conversations. In this relatively upscale and tasteful tourist establishment the going rate for a girl was \$40 a night. *Jineteras* can make more than a doctor or teacher. Offers ranged from \$200 (wishful thinking, *senorita*) to \$12. One young Canadian lady, a frequent visitor to Cuba, told me her male friends were accosted outside their hotel one night by teenaged putas offering sex for \$5 in the bushes along the street.

I soon tired of being hit on and of the same old BS found in every Third-World country: the hustle. So I packed it in for the night and spent the next morning recovering while Jerry did a beach recon and sampled

the local rum. I placed a phone call to my Cuban airborne contacts and planned our activities for the week.

Bay Of Pigs

Having read our history, including Jerry's copy of *The Bay of Pigs: the Leaders' Story of Brigade 2506* by Haynes Johnson, we wanted to see the landing site first hand. We joined a mini-van tour to the *Pargue Nacional de la Ciénega de Zapata*. The Zapata Marshlands Park, a largely unspoiled wilderness, is home to 80% of Cuba's fauna. Playa Larga at the head of the *Bahía de Cochinos*, the Bay of Pigs, was the last stop on the tour after the Guama Tourist Center.

Slipping the driver and the tour guide \$10 each, we were happy to leave the other tourists behind. While they were swimming at Playa Larga we took a dip in Cold War history. It was a 20 minute drive to the *Bahía de Cochinos*, known to most Cubans as *Playa Giron*, after Gilbert Giron, a French pirate who landed there in the 17th century. Cubans refer to the invasion site as Giron. The government built a museum, the *Museo de Giron*, to commemorate the Cuban victory over the American *imperialistas* and their Cuban "mercenaries." The Cuban exiles of Brigada 2506 are identified in the museum as belonging to the "*Organizacion de la Brigada de Asalto 2506 (mercenaria)*." We bought a ticket and along with a group of Cuban schoolkids wearing the red scarves of the Communist Party's Young Pioneers toured the Playa Giron museum. As small arms aficionados who collect uniforms and militaria we were in heaven. Jerry was pleased to confirm from a display that the Cubans of Brigada 2506 wore 19509 USMC issue 13 star button "Duck Hunter" camouflage uniforms

while I ogled an authentic 2506 insignia (a Cuban flag superimposed on a white cross) with tab. Studying the photos of militia men being issued weapons still covered with packing grease Jerry and I determined that the *Milicias Nacionales Revolucionarias* were armed with a hodge-podge of Beretta M-1 Garands, Springfield 1903s, Krag 1896 Rifles (#31640 is on display at the museum), 7.62 Model 52 Czech rifles, Soviet PPSH-41 submachineguns, Model 23 Czech 9mm subguns, early FN FAL 7.62mm rifles, and even a Remington .45 auto pistol. Heavy weapons captured in the invasion and now on display included an M-30 4.2 mortar, a 75mm recoilless, and a Browning .30 caliber machine gun.

On the way back we stopped in Australia, a town named for its sugar mill's parent company. We jumped out of the minivan and started looking for Castro's old command post where a billboard announced "*aqui esta comandancia de las FAR ('Fuerzas Armadas de Revolucion')*." Finding the actual building used as Fidel's command post took a little wandering, though it was only a block from the sign. Everybody, except our tour guide, knew where it had been.

We walked through town without any problems though we did get a few stares and even some catcalls from a truckload of farm workers. There are no restrictions on movements for foreigners in Cuba except, of course, for those places designated "*Prohibido! No Entrada*" which were usually fenced military enclosures.

Doomed Parachute Drop

Having checked the block at Playa Giron, next on our agenda was putting our knees to the breeze over Cuba. On our third day in country we went out to the *Centro Internacional de Paracaidismo* (CIP). The folks there were mostly ex-Cuban military.

The honcho there, Venancio "Chicho" Guevara, would do his best to hook us up. The staff at CIP makes its living tandem-jumping tourists onto the beach and catering to Canadian and European skydiving clubs. They don't get many American paratroopers requesting a military static-line jump with Cuban veterans. But in the interest of the Airborne Brotherhood they would try and borrow some military chutes for us.

The next morning we were out to CIP bright and early. Normally, static-line jumps are made over the military drop zone but because only three of us (our jumpmaster would go out with us) were jumping the decision was made to make a low-altitude jump over CIP and land in a small sugarcane field nearby. Skydivers with their more accurate square sport canopies could make it no problem. But with our military round canopies it was going to be "interesting." Both experienced jumpers, Jerry and I did a walk-through of the jump procedures and pronounced ourselves ready.

I jumped out, began counting, felt the drogue chute deploy. I was snapping my head back down on my chest to pull the rip-

cord when the opening shock jerked me out of my firm body position. I looked up, full canopy and no riser twists. *Hooah!* Then I looked down and got the bad news. No drop zone in sight, my face to the wind I couldn't see where I was going, and looking at my altimeter I was below 1000 feet.

Although the D-6 has steering lines running up the risers I didn't bother. Instead, I climbed up the damn risers to turn my canopy so I was running with the wind and could see where I was going. When I came around I didn't see anything even remotely resembling a sugar-cane field. Concrete block and tin roofs. Not good.

Worse were the refinery- and oil-storage tanks I was about to float over. I continued to lose altitude, all the while frantically looking for someplace to go in. What I saw was a tag utility pole of some type and beyond that a house adjacent to a field of

trees. The house was getting closer and it looked like I was going in. This was going to hurt. I pulled a hard riser slip to the right and held against the wind hoping I would land in the trees. When a paratrooper aims for the trees you know the drop zone is bad news.

That's when I noticed the electric lines running into the house, I actually pulled my feet up to clear the lines and snapped them back down in time for a PLF. I hit the hard-packed dirt road just in front of the house, rolled to the right, and came up pulling on my lines. My lines and chute were decorating the roof. The canopy was hanging over the windows and the open front door. It must have gotten suddenly dark inside because someone started shouting, "*Que pasaran? Que pasaran?*" (What's going on?)

More Spandex

Somebody was pushing and pulling at the silk hanging in front of the door. Three teenage girls made their way out and with shy smiles and giggles said hello. They were scantily clad. More spandex. I looked farther out towards my initial direction of travel where I knew Jerry must have landed, wondering just where Jerry went in and whether he was as lucky as I was. Or not. I succeeded in getting the canopy off the house without any damage. A rather large Cuban woman came walking up the road and asked me what was going on (again, "*Que pasaran?*") It was obvious skydivers normally did not land this far from CIP. She asked me where I was from, so I told her. When she repeated "Novo York!" it caused quite a stir. I mean, how often does an enemy paratrooper land in your front yard. As she talked to me I laid the chute out on the road, twirled it tight and started to daisy chain it. About 30 people had gathered



This lifesize diorama in Havana's military museum commemorates Che Guevara. Throughout Cuba, Che's face is plastered on key chains, bookmarks, refrigerator magnets and T-Shirts. The military museum also features this painting of a bespectacled Castro making his epic leap from the SAU-100 at the Bay of Pigs (top).



Many of Cuba's urban dwellings are in the same shape as rural housing. This decaying building in Havana is typical, lacking plumbing, water and electricity, and replete with broken windows and rotting floors and staircases. Economic disparity is readily apparent to any tourist visiting Cuba. The Cuban minimum wage is \$4 a month; one beer in a tourist hotel is about \$2 in U.S. bucks. Many rural residences, as pictured here (left), are still primitive, without running water or electricity.

around by the time I sorted out my chute and got it packed up in the kit bag. Just then the Suzuki jeep from CIP showed up. Jerry was okay and we would pick him up. We'd both landed in a village called Santa Marta. Jerry had landed in an old man's garden.

Kens & Barbies In Havana

With two of our must-dos knocked out we had only one remaining burning desire: Check out Havana. Our tour guide was adept at spouting the Communist Party line with an occasional embarrassed glance at the two Americans. He could've saved himself the trouble. We found it all very amusing:

"You're only seeing a certain segment of Cuban society." (Yes, sorry we haven't partied with any communist political hacks or secret policemen. Maybe next time.) and

"Many Cubans are very well-educated; all education is free." (Well, yes, if you can

get in and still afford to eat while you go.)

Rather than get stuck with all the Canadian Kens and Barbies on their honeymoons, we jumped ship (or bus) at the first stop. Setting up our RV point for later, we wandered off into *Vieja Habana*.

Old Havana dates from the colonial era (16th - 19th centuries). Its Spanish baroque architecture, marked by narrow streets and high walls, alleys, ornate archways and wrought iron balconies (hung with laundry), is reason enough to visit La Habana Vieja.

Encountering several street hustlers offering cigars, drugs, or an introduction to *las señoritas* (who usually introduce themselves) we entered the Plaza de la Cathedral at the Callejon del Chorro. The plaza was crowded with stalls with vendors hawking cheap wood carvings, jadeite ashtrays, leather goods, all manner of tourist curios. With a band playing and the throngs of locals and tourists intermingling it was a carnival-like atmosphere. We were cruised by several young ladies wearing very little in the way of clothing. Prostitution may be technically illegal, but it's still quite brazen.

Leaving the marketplace, we met a dapper gentleman wearing a sport shirt and a Milwaukee Brewers hat. "Where you guys from?" I told him. "New York! Hell, I was in New York before you even born, goddamn 1947, I was in New York." When we told him we were on our way up the street to see the *Granma* memorial he said, "Okay, you go visit your friends, goddamn Communists. It's all shit. All of them are shit. Communists! I'm going back to New York soon and never coming back." *Cuidado, amigo*, I've heard that the secret police is the only thing that works efficiently in Cuba.

"Ricardo" owns a small restaurant just off Empedrado and Callejon del Chorro where you can dine on "*La típica y sabrosa comida criolla platos internacionales.*" To get there we had to walk through the inner courtyard of an apartment building flooded with water, past running and shouting kids, a broken-down '54 Chevy, and the rusting remains of a Toyota pickup. Ricardo ushered us down an alley to his restaurant and showed us inside.



A common sight in Havana are the 1950s' Fords, Chevys and Buicks parked indefinitely on the streets, out of gas. Because of gas shortages, the most common mode of transportation for Cubans are the 600,000 bicycles donated by the People's Republic of China. Here, three teenage girls use one such car as a convenient street-side perch.



Propaganda billboard at Playa Giron, Bay of Pigs: Che Guevara, "For Solidarity, Anti-Imperialism, Peace and Friendship."

Filled with Spanish tourists, the restaurant turned out to be four or five tables crowded into a living room. The government has only recently permitted small family-owned businesses such as these living-room diners (known as *paladares*) to exist. They need the tax money. Taking a look around we told Ricardo we'd already eaten; just as well as there was no room. We offered to buy a beer while we were there but Ricardo said, no, no, we should buy one from the vendor down on the corner where it was 50 cents cheaper. These are the kind of people I met in Cuba.

Drinking Like Papa

Ice-cold beers in hand, we continued our stroll bypassing the *Hotel Ambos Mundo* (Both Worlds), where Hemingway wrote *For Whom the Bell Tolls* after returning from the Spanish Civil War. The hotel is now run down but Papa's room has been turned into a museum. We stopped instead at the dark

and seedy *La Bodeguita del Medio*, the little bar in the middle, a Creole joint known for its world-famous *mojito* (a light rum-soda-and lemon/sugar concoction with crushed mint leaves filling half the glass).

Ernest Hemingway, undoubtedly the second most famous dead icon in Havana next to Che Guevara, liked to drink here. Hanging behind the bar was the sign supposedly penned and signed by Hemingway "*My Mojito in La Bodeguita, My Daiquiri in El Floridita.*" Hemingway had a prodigious appetite for booze. He also blew his head off at the age of 61 with a Boss .12-gauge double while despondent over failing health caused by advanced liver and kidney disease. In Hemingway's day, the bar was a Bohemian hangout for the Havana artistic/intellectual set, none of whom could now afford the \$4 drinks. But *La Bodeguita* was festive. It's a place you could party in all night making lifelong friends you would never see again.



Wandering up the street we rubber-necked at the local scene: Teenage girls sat on the hoods of old Chevys while schoolboys played soccer and handball in the street and everywhere were the street hustlers hawking cigars. Walking the streets we were targets for several *Cubanos* practicing their English. Cubans are very nice people — friendly and open. Unfortunately, you have to be on your guard for the ever present hustle. Havana is, after all, a tourist destination in a poor country. Along the way we passed out T-shirts, pens, and chewing gum. Conversation was not a problem as baseball and boxing are the national pastimes. A hundred or more men clustered in small groups were gathered in Havana's Parque Central "discussing" the previous night's

Continued on page 88

THE SADDAMIC BOMB

How Iraq Almost — And May Yet — Build The Bomb

by Al J. Venter
Photos courtesy UNSCOM



In Iraq, the rumblings continue. November began with Saddam Hussein prohibiting American participation in UNSCOM's strip-search of that country for real or imagined stocks of weapons of mass destruction. It had happened before. It will again. The real story of how Baghdad almost got its bomb is a fascinating mix of deception, intrigue, political power play and downright greed. The implications for the Arab world are severe. For it was, after all, to have been the Islamic Bomb.

What the aftermath of Operation Desert Storm did for those who follow such events was to stir the recurrent nightmare of a major Israeli-Arab conflict involving nuclear weapons. This scenario continues to haunt strategists on both sides of the Atlantic.

What we now accept is that it was a close-run thing. With the benefit of hindsight, we know that while Iraq encountered serious problems with the development of a nuclear weapon, Baghdad was roughly two years from producing the first Arab bomb using indigenous facilities. If Saddam had taken a short cut (which is what their Iranian neighbors are suspected of doing right now, with plutonium and weapons grade uranium bought on the Former Soviet Union [FSU] black market) the objective might have been achieved even sooner.

It was Saddam Hussein's intention, once it became clear that the invasion of Kuwait would be fiercely opposed, to take his safeguarded highly enriched uranium (HEU) — covered by the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) — and work toward building a single atom bomb. Had he been successful, he might well have done it in a year. But he would still have lacked the means to deliver his bomb to target.

A U.S. National Intelligence estimate said at the time: "Iraq (with a supply of HEU) could build such a device in six months to a year." It concluded that the final product was fraught with prob-

lems. It would, in any event, have been "too big to deliver by missile."

Stocking Nuclear Fuel

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) — and by inference, the major powers — were aware that when coalition forces went in, Iraq had, in stock, a total of almost 14 kilograms of Russian-supplied 80% enriched uranium as well as 11.9 kilograms of lightly irradiated 93% uranium and almost half a kilo of 93% HEU, the last two bought from France. All had been subject to IAEA scrutiny, which, according to David Kay (chief inspector of the three early UN nuclear weapons inspections in post-Gulf War Iraq) had been very cleverly manipulated by Baghdad. The fact that Saddam was in possession of HEU did give him some leverage.

The Iraqis have since admitted that after the IAEA made their routine inspection of this material in November 1990 — following the invasion of Kuwait (but before the Allies started bombing) — they intended to divert all their HEU and further enrich a portion of it. They were planning to convert it to metal "buttons" for the final weaponization process, which should have occurred by April 1991. The intention was to present the world with a fait accompli: that Iraq had its bomb.

Israeli sources in Washington have suggested to this author that in order to do this, Saddam Hussein might have exercised one of two options:

- He could have test fired his bomb in the desert at a site to be built near the Saudi border. This would have demonstrated to the world that Iraq had a nuclear capability (and thus, possibly, bring about a stalemate in the Kuwaiti issue with his forces still ensconced at the head of the Gulf). As it was, he was pre-empted by the invasion.

- Alternatively, there is a school of thought that believed that he might have considered trying to get such a bomb to Israel, possibly

(right) UNSCOM inspectors test the engine of a monitored liquid missile system. (opposite, inset) This building, destroyed recently by the United Nations Special Commission (UNSCOM), was used by Iraq to produce solid missile propellant. If Saddam Hussein succeeds in building an atom bomb, he may be able to deploy it on a SCUD missile, such as those used against Israel and allied troops during the Gulf War. Otherwise, some experts speculate, Saddam could deploy an atomic bomb on a ship into any enemy's harbor.

boat, for detonation in the Haifa harbor roadstead. This is a premise that is currently doing the rounds in Beirut and is thought to have originally been mooted by Iranian Pasdaran terrorists (author's visit, August 1997).

Certainly the biggest surprise of the post-war IAEA inspections was the discovery that Iraq had a substantial electromagnetic isotope separation (EMIS) Program.

EMIS is such a large and energy-intensive technology, that intelligence agencies have always assumed that with modern electronic and satellite-surveillance techniques they would be able to detect such a development in its infancy. More significant, neither Russia nor America believed that any nation would pursue "obsolete" calutron technology in a bomb program. It was outdated, Second World War stuff, the pundits argued. In any event, the United States abandoned that route soon after the war. Yet, the detail is all there, in print, among documentation that was declassified years ago. For decades it has been available for public inspection by anybody who knows where to look.

After Iraq lost the war and the first of the international inspectors arrived, they uncovered what was termed at the time "a remarkable clandestine nuclear materials production and weapons design of unexpected size and sophistication." David Kay, in his testimony before the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee in October 1991, reckoned about 7,000 scientists and 20,000 workers were involved in the program.

Lies From Baghdad

By the terms of Security Council resolution 687, Iraq was required to give the U.N. precise details of the quantities and locations of its chemical, biological, ballistic missile and nuclear stockpiles. These listings were designed to provide the baseline for subsequent inspection activities and



were to lead to the dismantling of Iraq's weapons of mass destruction (WMD). Just about every detail that came from Baghdad thereafter was misleading.

"On the nuclear front," says Kay, "the scale of deception was even greater. Iraq's initial declaration on 19 April 1991 stated that it had no proscribed nuclear materials. This was amended on 27 April to acknowledge that it did have what it had reported to the IAEA before the war as well as a peaceful research program centered on the Tuwaitha Nuclear Research Centre."

Subsequent inspections found something altogether different. It quickly became clear Iraq had been involved in a nuclear weapons program for some years. In a report, Kay writes: "At the time of the invasion of Kuwait, (Iraq) had begun the start-



(above, middle) An UNSCOM inspector samples chemical weapons precursors at Muthanna State Establishment. (far left) With a cutting torch, the blades for this 300-gallon rocket propellant mixer were rendered useless. (left) UNSCOM inspectors take chemical samples from a SCUD missile warhead, looking for evidence of proscribed weapons materials. A SCUD, which can easily carry deadly chemical agents, may also be capable of deploying a light weight nuclear warhead – a fact that instills fear throughout the Middle East.



Calutrons for uranium enrichment were unilaterally destroyed by Iraq. Uranium enrichment is a major concern of United Nations weapons inspectors, as it's been a key element in Iraq's quest to build an atom bomb.

up for industrial-scale enrichment using calutrons and had acquired the material, designs and much of the equipment for 20,000 modern centrifuges. Design, component testing and construction of manufacturing facilities for actual bomb production were well advanced."

U.N. inspectors reckoned at that point the electromagnetic isotope separation Program had put Iraq just 18 to 30 months away from having enough material for an atom bomb. The Action Team also found much sophisticated European centrifuge technology. This seemed to indicate a serious leak from the triple-nation (Germany, the Netherlands and Britain) Uranium Enrichment Company better known as Urenco. It became apparent quickly there were detailed plans for building an "implosion" nuclear device.

Amazement has always been expressed at the "true breadth of Saddam's nuclear weapons enterprise as well as the skill with which it was kept hidden from prying eyes both on the ground and above it," says David Albright who spent time with the IAEA Action Team in Iraq and is President of the Institute of Science and International Security in Washington DC.

Bomb-Making 101

While the Iraqi nuclear Program involved tens of thousands, no one was aware until afterwards the numbers of Iraqi students that had been sent abroad to acquire the necessary expertise and know how.

Students were rarely sent to the same universities or countries, which made it difficult for any one country to appreciate the breadth of technical skills being built up by the Baghdad regime.

It is interesting that the Iraqi experience has since led to a considerable tightening up of IAEA inspection procedures, which is essentially to prevent such things from happening again. Yet, looking at developments in Iran towards the close of the millennium, history



A weapons inspector sifts through piles of Iraqi documents to find information on proscribed weapons activities.

once again appears to be repeating itself.

There have been some curious anomalies. It's no longer a secret that prior to Operation Desert Storm the Iraqis received generous amounts of aid from who later became their chief antagonists, the Americans. During the Iran-Iraq War, while Washington was providing arms to Iran in the hopes of getting hostages in Lebanon freed, it was also rushing classified satellite intelligence to Baghdad as it came in. All this gave the Iraqis an excellent idea of what the Americans could see, and, by extension, how they could be fooled. They would use this knowledge to good advantage.

David Kay makes some instructive comments about how the Iraqis demonstrated on numerous occasions they had a rather accurate understanding of the limitations of U.S. technical collection systems and of how data gathered by such systems were interpreted.

"The catalogue of these techniques is long. It includes the erection of buildings within buildings (Tuwaitha); deliberately constructing buildings designed to the same plans and for the same purposes to look different (Ash Sharqat and Tarmiya); hiding power and water feeds to mislead as to facility use (Tarmiya); disguising operational state (Al Atheer); diminishing the value of a facility by apparent low security and lack of defenses (Tarmiya); severely reducing off-site emissions (Tuwaitha and Tarmiya); moving critical pieces of equipment as well as dispersing and placing facilities underground."

And, when the bombing was done, the Pentagon had to concede that while Iraq had suffered through the most sophisticated aerial bombardment in history, the country emerged, in the words of U.S. Air Force Chief of Staff Merrill A. McPeak, "with enough nascent nuclear capability to produce weapons by the year 2000."

Syria Wants The Bomb

There is little doubt Syria continues to demonstrate an interest in acquiring WMD of its own. According to Paul Stokes, one of the Action Team deputy leaders, frequent



This United Nations helicopter was mounted with Ground Penetrating Radar to assist with inspection for proscribed weapons.

inspections have prevented Iraq from conducting nuclear weapons development work at declared sites since the end of the war. But there is significant evidence (including that which has subsequently come in from defectors) this has not stopped Saddam's people from going ahead elsewhere. This is being done in clear violation of Security Council resolutions.

And while the IAEA, in theory, can go anywhere at any time — they fly over the country in UNSCOM-operated helicopters and aircraft (including a U-2 surveillance plane) — the Iraqis are continuing to preclude IAEA members entrance to many sites. In some instances, this intransigence gives them time to remove incriminating evidence. What's clear is that this Arab nation has been remarkably devious throughout the inspection period. As one observer stated: "The Iraqis lied fluently from day one." It is common knowledge that they stalled, obfuscated, covered up or confused wherever and whomever they could in a bid to obscure the true picture of what has been going on.

For instance, one of the conclusions already reached in 1992 was that while the Iraqis claimed to have had little success with the centrifuge enrichment program, a mismatch between the sophistication of the materials they admit having imported and those turned over to inspection has raised concern that a hidden centrifuge facility still remains to be found. There are other examples.

It took the defection of Saddam's son-in-law, General Hussein Kamel — former head of the Ministry of Industry and Military Industrialization (MIMI) — to expose the extent of what Iraq had achieved. Once he had been safely ensconced for debriefing in Jordan, Iraq had no option but to hand over to the IAEA half a million pages of secreted documents, almost 20 tons of high-strength maraging steel and stocks of carbon fiber for more than a thousand gas centrifuges, all of which (and much more) Kamel had detailed. Some of these items are linked to what is believed still to be hidden.

Beginning Of The End

In the simplest terms, the Iraqi nuclear Program comprehensively covers the years from 1976 when construction on the French-supplied Tammuz 1RR/PPR reactor began, to about mid-1991 when all major nuclear work was halted by the Gulf War.

The Israeli Air Force bombing of the facilities at the Osiraq reactor and subsequent developments highlighted at a very early stage that Iraq was fostering a nuclear weapons interest.

Saddam Hussein bought two nuclear reactors from France: a 40 MWth materials test reactor which was destroyed and the smaller 400 KW Tammuz 2. These deals

were followed by a further purchase from Italy of a radiochemistry laboratory in 1978 which included three "hot cells" used for the reprocessing of plutonium. Until destroyed in the Gulf War, they were operating at the Tuwaitha nuclear complex about 30 km southeast of Baghdad.



(top) One hundred fifty boxes of documents, containing weapons information, were presented to UNSCOM inspectors at a chicken farm in Iraq in 1995. (center) Inspectors monitor Iraqi missile parts they say were "ingeniously produced." (above) A German helicopter takes off after deploying the UNSCOM inspection team in Iraq.

Meanwhile, Iraq had signed the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. Similarly, it is worth noting, Iran is also an NPT signatory.

Jafer dhia Jafar, leader of Iraq's nuclear-weapons effort claims it was the Israeli bombing of Osiraq that originally prompted his government to proceed with a secret enrichment Program. Educated at the University of Manchester, England, and Imperial College, London, Jafar reckons the attack cost his country almost \$1 billion. Yet, he says, the world community did not punish Israel for what was clearly an act of war. This was one of the factors, he maintains, that

caused his nation to resort to subterfuge.

As he described it to U.N. inspectors, the argument ran: "Let Israel believe it destroyed our nuclear capacity. Accept the sympathy being offered for this aggression and then proceed in secret with the program."

Already, in 1982, the Iraqis began to explore electromagnetic isotope separation at Tuwaitha, which eventually became the principal focus of nuclear research in the country. Baghdad was said to be confident its scientific establishment had the necessary skills and technology to master this extremely difficult discipline. They also reached out in other directions — gas centrifuge, gaseous diffusion, chemical enrichment and laser isotope separation.

To begin with, much time, money and effort went into gaseous diffusion. This route was abandoned when some of the technical problems proved insurmountable. Also, Saddam's agents were having trouble trying to buy essential equipment on the open market, much of which had been embargoed by the West. Looking at the lists of items acquired, they appear, nonetheless, to have been remarkably successful.

Starting in the late 1980s, Iraqi scientists began working on centrifuge enrichment as a possible alternative or a source of LEU for EMIS. They had hoped to achieve a production output of about 15 kg of 93% weapons-grade uranium a year at each of the EMIS production units that they intended to build.

"Originally, the gaseous diffusion elements would have provided low-enriched uranium as a feedstock for the EMIS plants, dramatically increasing HEU production," Jafar explained during one of his interviews.

The Tarmiya complex on the Tigris River (built by a Yugoslavian firm, Federal Directorate of Supply and Procurement) — and its "twin" at Ash Sharqat, several hundred kms to the north of Baghdad — was designated to support industrial-scale EMIS production. While there were numerous problems of a technical nature, both plants together, ultimately, could have produced between 25 and 100 kgs of

weapons-grade HEU a year had they operated successfully. This would have given Iraq the capacity to build up to four atomic bombs a year.

A small plutonium separation program was started in the mid-1970s. Following contact with SNIA-Techint of Italy, a laboratory was set up in Baghdad for research on fuel processing. This facility was eventually able to separate small quantities of plutonium, again, contrary to the NPT safeguard agreement.

Continued on page 80



solate. Exterminate like a cornered rat. Eradicate like a crop pest.”

It's difficult connecting this level of official abuse with the short, swarthy guy in horn-rimmed glasses sitting across the table from me in a crowded lunch-time restaurant. Is this man with the slow smile picking at a piece of chicken really a “brutal terrorist” with whom there can be no compromise?

For operatives of China's far-reaching security and intelligence apparatus the answer is an unwavering affirmative. For longer than 20 years, this man has been in and out of a string of interrogation centers, jails and labor camps.

And now, the Chinese badly want him back to do another long stretch or face a permanent settling of scores. “Terrorist” or “freedom fighter,” Torghun is an ethnic Uighur (pronounced “Wee-gur”) and veteran of a movement committed to a seemingly hopeless enterprise: ejecting the might of the People's Republic of China from the vast western territory of Xinjiang — a region he and his compatriots prefer to call “East Turkestan.”

His prospects for success are close to zero. But Torghun and his fellow separatists have China's leadership rattled. In the last decade trouble in mainly Muslim Xinjiang has escalated from an occasional race riot, pitting Uighurs against Han Chinese settlers and the military, to a full-blown terror wave and the birth pangs of a guerrilla conflict. It is now China's most serious internal security problem since the upheavals of the Cultural Revolution. A campaign of bombings, assassinations and sabotage strikes have prompted mass arrests, draconian prison sentences and scores of executions.

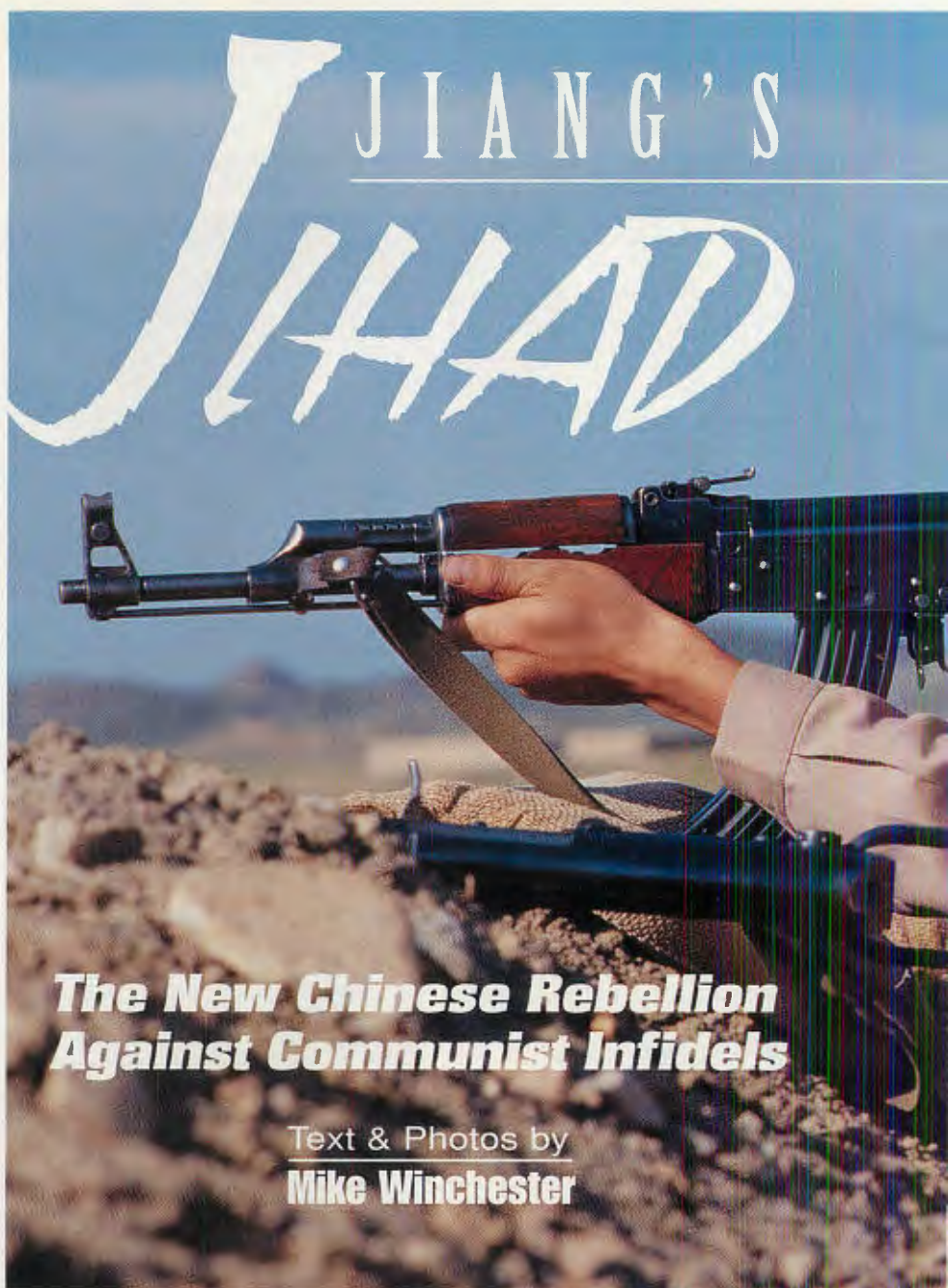
In February 1997, the city of Yining was sealed off for days following a major riot that left at least nine dead and hundreds injured, graphic evidence that discontent in Xinjiang is not limited to a “handful” of criminals and malcontents, as Beijing claims, but is becoming a popular phenomenon. In July, communist party chiefs pinpointed the Xinjiang troubles as the biggest threat to national unity. And no amount of cheery propaganda was going to cover it up.

Torghun is not admitting that he's personally set off bombs. But he clearly knows far more about the goings on in the murky world of the Uighur underground than is healthy in today's China. He's taken the precaution of leaving the country to continuing organizing from the outside.

The Old Afghan Mafia

Getting to meet him at all has been a major run-around even by Central Asian standards. I've been to four countries and killed a lot of time in seedy hotels waiting for phone calls that usually don't come. When they do it's usually a prospective fixer or a friendly Uighur exile with an atrocity story who hasn't set eyes on Xinjiang in the past 30 years.

Finally, the old Afghan Mafia comes



The New Chinese Rebellion Against Communist Infidels

Text & Photos by
Mike Winchester

across. Rahim is a contact who used to fight Soviet communism on the battlefields of Eastern Afghanistan. Today, he has a wife and two kids and a family business in the Gulf. But the old *jihād* networks die hard and he still keeps his ear to the ground. A couple of phone calls and a few guarantees and I'm sitting down, meeting a man who has the distinction of being sought by one of the largest and most efficient security and intelligence networks on the planet — in a capital city of a country that had best remain nameless.

Torghun was born in Xinjiang's conservative, Muslim-dominated deep-south. He learned at his grandmother's knee that Muslims are one thing and Chinese are something else, *kafirs*, or unbelievers. He also learned first-hand that many Chinese settlers in Xinjiang look on the Uighurs with contempt as being superstitious, backward and dirty.

It was a lesson he didn't appreciate and

by his mid-teens he was headed for trouble. His first run-in with the authorities was when he and a group of friends broke into a police station and lifted several weapons.

“It was crazy really,” he recalled. “We got away with a Kalashnikov and a machine gun. The idea was simply to shoot up the Chinese.” That exploit earned him his first stretch behind bars, much of it in solitary confinement. So it was in prison, tutored by an Islamic scholar, that he developed the faith in Islam that still sustains him. “Our strength is now our religious faith,” he says. Then, with a thin smile, “I suppose I should thank the Chinese for that.”

In the late 1980s, Torghun threw in his lot with an underground group led by a charismatic religious student called Zahideen Yusuf. Another farmer's son from a poor village with a long history of anti-Communist and anti-Chinese unrest. Inspired by the Holy War fought by the



that the time was not yet ripe." Ripe or not, Baren exploded on 5 April 1990, apparently after a raid by a police unit looking for arms. The raid turned into a three-day firefight joined by army and militia units that left (according to Chinese figures) 22 dead, including Zahideen, many of his inner circle and several of the security forces. Other insurgents and sympathetic villagers fled to the mountains pursued by chopper-borne troops in a massive sweep that netted hundreds of runaways. Torghun, himself, was not involved in the fight but was one of over 1,000 suspects rounded up in cities across Xinjiang in the following weeks.

For the first time, since the communists seized power, an overtly Islamic movement with region-wide reach had dared to challenge the might of the Chinese State.

Baren marked the opening shots of a still largely hidden war. For two years following this "counter-revolutionary armed rebellion" there was an uneasy lull. Torghun recalls being interrogated for months, first in Kashgar, then in Xinjiang's capital city, Urumchi. He finally ended up in a *laogai* (reform through labor) camp with a bunch of Chinese criminals for several years. On his wrists he still carries scars dug by being handcuffed, his arms behind his back, one arm over the shoulder pointing down, one arm against his back pointing up.

But if Xinjiang security bosses concluded the back of the separatist "Islamic Party" had been broken, they were badly mistaken. "The organization was never really destroyed," says Torghun. "Some people escaped from Baren; others were later released and continued working." On 5 February 1992, a bomb, timed to coincide with the Chinese New Year holiday, exploded on an Urumchi bus killing six. It was the first blast in a campaign of targeted terror that in spring 1997 for the first time reached into Beijing itself. The men who began the struggle for independence in Baren are becoming increasingly daring, and they're winning popular support. In Xinjiang itself it's not difficult to see why.

Afghan mujahideen against another infidel invader, Zahideen built a following, first in Baren, then beyond. As the movement grew he began stockpiling weapons procured on the thriving black-market and smuggled across the border from Pakistan. It was no coincidence that at around the same time the first Uighur youth were heading via Pakistan for the battlefields of eastern Afghanistan for arms-training and hands-on combat experience.

"The Baren organization spread all over Turkistan," Torghun recalls. "Students from Baren were visiting different cities urging jihad. Most people, including myself, argued



(above) Uighur mujahideen in trenches near Khost, in southeast Afghanistan. Point men in a war that, to some, is futile — but inevitable. (right) Illegal Koranic class for village children conducted despite Chinese crackdown.

Getting in Xinjiang involved a bone-shaking three-day bus ride through northern Pakistan across the Karakorum range and some of the most rugged mountain scenery on the planet. Built in the 1970s by both the Chinese and Pakistanis, the Karakorum Highway is an amazing feat of military engineering that even today requires a battalion of Pakistani construction troops to keep open in the face of land-slips and avalanches.

The border itself is at the top of the Khunjerab Pass at over 16,000 ft. Even at the height of summer in late August, snow was falling. One long look at these borderlands, that touch on Pakistan, Afghanistan and Tajikistan — some of the most unstable countries in Asia — it's easy enough to understand why the Chinese military is today investing time and resources in rapid reaction forces and training for "fighting in border areas." There are two areas where the People's Liberation Army is likely to see

action in the not too distant future. One is the disputed Spratly Islands in the South China Sea. The other, and even more probable contingency, is counter-insurgency operations in Xinjiang.

Driving down from the mountains into the sweltering summer heat of Kashgar, I half-expected to find a city under siege: armed police at intersections, troops guarding key buildings. But Kashgar was as peaceful as any city of a million can be. There was no army on the streets and only the occasional unarmed cop. An ancient and overwhelmingly Uighur city of traders and artisans, Kashgar is a picturesque throwback to an embattled and fast-disappearing Central Asian culture. The central square is dominated by the Eidgah mosque where old men with goatees and knee-high boots and embroidered skull caps doze in the shade of an inner courtyard. Along the winding backstreets of the Old City donkey carts still

haul people and merchandise.

A Shadow Of War

But in Kashgar, as in many other Xinjiang cities, a shadow war is being played out by Uighur insurgents and the security forces. Fear and paranoia are just below the surface. Most people are scared to talk and government agents and informers are everywhere. But the bombers are still at work. Mostly they use improvised explosive devices with simple timing mechanisms and dynamite rather than plastic explosives but the effect is still lethal. Three days before my arrival a taxi and its Chinese driver were blown apart close to the center of town. Uighurs associated with the government and government policies are also increasingly being targeted. In May 1996, the 73-year old chief *imam* (priest) at the Eidgah Mosque, a government-approved and appointed official — was nearly

(right) Urumchi, a modern and overwhelmingly Han Chinese city. (below) People's Liberation Army (PLA) troops facing mechanical problems in the desert near, Khotan, South Xinjiang. PLA forces maintain a low-profile and are garrisoned well-away from urban areas. (bottom) Uighur fighters in Khost, Afghanistan, breaking down and cleaning personal weapons. One infidel defeated, another to take its place.



stabbed to death one night.

The Chinese authorities have been hitting back hard with occasional curfews and waves of mass arrests. In Kashgar, alone, these rose into the thousands over 1996 and 1997.

Most cities now have strong garrisons of riot-trained Peoples Armed Police ready to head into action on a round-the-clock basis. But in Xinjiang, most of the military are based outside the cities and maintain a notably low profile.

Several interlocking factors lie behind the rising conflict in Xinjiang. At root is the yawning ethnic, cultural and religious rift between the Turkic-speaking Uighurs, who are Muslims, and the Han Chinese, whose claim to rule in Central Asia is relatively modern. The Hans have left their mark across the deserts and oases of the ancient Silk Road since at least the second century B.C. But only with the Manchu Qing dynasty's conquest in 1757-59 was Chinese political power firmly established in what later was called Xinjiang (the "New Dominion").

Even that was subject to periodic and



bloody revolts such as that of Yusuf Beg who booted out the Chinese and reigned supreme in western Xinjiang during 1865-77. The 1930s saw major revolts against the Central government and in the 1940s an independent Republic of East Turkestan, backed by Soviet Russia, was set up and survived until 1949 when Stalin betrayed it to his communist buddy, Mao Zedong.

The victory of the communists in China set the stage for an unprecedented program of crash Sinification (or, as the Chinese like to put it, "adding sand" to thicken the concrete). From the mid-1950s through to the mid-1990s more Han Chinese poured into Muslim Xinjiang than in the whole two millennia before. This was a well-planned, state-run campaign of internal colonization designed to secure an economically vital, but strategically precarious, region.

It was spearheaded by a massive paramilitary organization called the Xinjiang Construction and Production Corps, better known simply as the Bingtuan (Corps). In its early years it was composed of troops demobilized from the Korean War and settled on virgin land as soldier-farmers. Later, its ranks were filled out with political "class enemies," convicts and, at the time of the Cultural Revolution, Red Guards. As a result, in 1950, Han Chinese numbered around 5% of Xinjiang's population. Now, they're well over 40% of a total population of 17 million-plus. But plenty of Uighurs are convinced that, in fact, Han settlers have exceeded the sensitive 50% mark.

Ethnic/Cultural Swamp

This massive movement of Han population has prompted a real fear among Uighurs of being ethnically and culturally swamped. Since 1991 and the collapse of the Soviet Union, most of Central Asia's main ethnic groups, the Kazaks, Kyrgyz, Tajiks and Uzbeks — have inherited independent states. But the eight million Uighurs are a people without a country, trapped in a geographic dead-zone with no place to go and 1.2 billion Hans camped on the doorstep.



(clockwise from top) Chinese People's Army Police (PAP) — and front-line anti-riot troops — on a PT run along the streets of Kashgar. The horse market in Kashgar, where there's likely more for sale than noble steeds. What they're fighting for: religious freedom. The faithful gather outside the Central Eidagah mosque, in Kashgar. Every Uighur male proudly carries a local-style knife ... and is ready to utilize it.

Most Uighurs are convinced — with justification — that the Hans have every intention of settling in for an extended stay.

Against this backdrop, the troubles of the 1990s have been fueled by the general loosening of Mao-era totalitarianism and China's opening to the rest of the world. In Xinjiang that sparked a marked revival of Islam as well as growing contacts with Central Asians across the border. Along with trade poured new ideas and Saudi and Gulf money for new mosques, Pakistani and Arab preachers — and smuggled weapons. At the same time, independence for Central Asian states across the border has bugled a simple, and very appealing, message for many Uighurs: Communist super-powers *can* break up.

The 1990s also witnessed a trade-driven economic boom in northern Xinjiang that

had two effects: It encouraged more Hans to move west from China's overcrowded central provinces to take advantage of the opportunities.

Second, it's increased the disparities between the rich, Han-dominated north and the poor, rural and mainly Uighur south. Linguistically disadvantaged, and often less educated, and frequently unemployed, Uighur youth began embracing radical solutions.

A Possible Fifth Column

As a result, Torghun and the Baren survivors have been finding societal backing. Official statements have indicated that some members of Islamic clergy have been urging jihad from mosques. Colleges and schools, too, have evidently provided a ready platform for the separatist message. And even government officials have been sympathizing with the underground. A front-page article in the 22 May 1996 issue of the official Xinjiang Daily called for harsh punishment of "party members and officials implicated in political bombings, assassinations and other violent terrorist activities."

Insurgency in Xinjiang has developed in certainly clear phases. In the aftermath of Baren, the bombing campaign began. Since the February 1992 blasts in Urumqi it has targeted Kashgar, Aksu, Korla striking mostly at soft targets. The next phase began in 1995 with the emergence of armed cells of Uighur activists. Operations which gathered momentum into 1996 involved attacks on Chinese civilians and police; assassinations of Uighur officials and pro-Chinese Muslim priests; and then strikes at infrastructure such as railways and pipelines.

How many organizations are behind the upsurge is anything but clear. The Chinese themselves claimed to have identified two: the "Islamic Party of East Turkestan," involved at Baren; and, more recently, the so-called "Party of God." They also claim the underground is being actively aided by

Continued on page 76

Uncompaghere

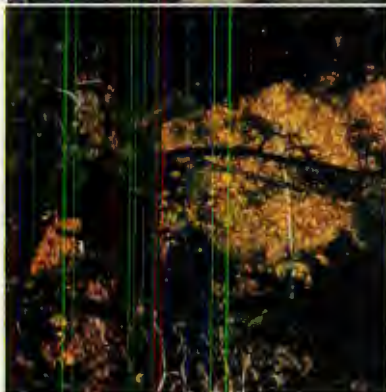
Proving Grounds

by John Hogan



SOF T&Es The High-Tech & Gee-Whi

Eight tents were used at the camp, giving room for sharing meals, swapping war stories and hunting tales, and evaluating equipment. (Left to right) Humphries; Grover Norquist, a well known political strategist who advises Senate Majority leader Trent Lott and other Republican leaders; Abell; and Brown





Certainly it was not planned that way, but the 1997 *Soldier Of Fortune* Hunting and T&E camp turned out to be more Testing and Evaluation than hunting. Friends of Bambi will be happy to know that two tons of tents, food, firearms and brand new high-tech whiz-bang hunting gear were not used in connection with the spilling of much wildlife blood.

Unless, of course, one factors in the blood shed in the form of knees skinned and accidentally pounded thumbs and cut fingers suffered by those of us who helped put up or take down the hunting camp. Then there was the axle grease that poured from the rear end of a Blazer owned by Lt. Col. Robert K. Brown, USAR (Ret.), *Soldier Of Fortune* publisher. After years of service, the horrible roads of the Uncompaghre Plateau finally caused the Blazer's ring gears to lock up.

The Worst Road on Earth?

Sergeant Chief Paul Fanshaw was mostly responsible for moving personnel, arms, food, fresh water, shelter and vehicles from 5,200 feet up a mighty bad road onto Brushy Ridge and the 7,500 foot plateau. Fanshaw, a world circling soldier, late of the Second Parachute

(insets) Tim Abell, former Army Ranger and co-star of *Soldier Of Fortune, Inc.*, tries out a thermal imaging scope. The device allows one to shoot a pistol or sub-gun around corners without exposing himself to enemy fire. Matt Haggerty, who sells high tech gee-whiz optical devices to the military and to some police and security organizations, brought the scope to the 1997 *Soldier Of Fortune* hunting, testing and evaluation camp. (bottom right) The cook tent is where most socializing took place at night, after futile efforts in daylight to find big game. (Left to right in cook tent) Robert Himber; former SEAL Harry Humphries, technical director for *Soldier Of Fortune, Inc.*, TV series; Jim Graves; Paul Fanshaw; and Lt. Col. Robert K. Brown, USAR (Ret.), *Soldier Of Fortune* magazine publisher.

Battalion of the French Foreign Legion, declared the Brushy Ridge camp haul road — which runs 4 miles and is rutted with hip-deep potholes and knee-high rocks — worse than any similar track in Djibouti, Africa.

Despite his exploits in service of the tricolor, Fanshaw declined to negotiate the Brushy Ridge haul road with our U-Haul trailers attached to the Jeep. Instead, he simply made many trips up and down, all of them imperiling his life. At one point, where the road requires drivers to perch three wheels on different height rocks while taking on a steep slope, the road also narrows and the drop-off into the gulch on either side is about 150 feet.

A four wheel drive Ford pickup is resting upright at the bottom, evidence of the fact tow truck drivers charge \$400 an hour to venture off the blacktop road and suggesting the driver was going too fast. We talked about erecting a plaque at the site, paraphrasing Kipling: "The end of the fight is marked by a dead pickup truck with the epitaph, 'Here lies a fool who tried to hustle the Brushy Ridge haul road.'"

Setting Up Camp

After all of the supplies were hauled, establishing the actual camp involved setting up enough tents to feed and house the 18 people who were scheduled to show up in search of the elusive Uncompaghre Elk. Since the expected attendees included some movie stars and at least one of the leading strategists of the

Republican party, the Sergeant Chief took great pains to ensure no luxury was forgotten. He even nailed a store bought toilet seat onto the weathered plywood of the Jane Fonda memorial outhouse.

A total of eight tents were erected. Five were put up to hold 18 hunters and their personal gear while the other three were reserved for food, camp supplies and cooking. The cook tent is where everyone spent the most time, either sharing a meal or swapping war stories and hunting tales.

Brad Johnson, the former rodeo cowboy who starred in *Flight of the Intruder* and now plays Major Matt Shepherd on *Soldier Of Fortune Inc.*, needed far less care than the rest of us. Johnson, who also spent time as a big-game guide and outfitter, brought his own gear. The Sergeant Chief paid him the ultimate compliment by noting that Johnson, "knows what he is doing." His outfitters tent with its portable bunks and comfortable wood stove was the envy of the rest of us. Fortunately, several of our number — Col. Brown, *SOF, Inc.* co-star Tim Abell and former SEAL Harry Humphries — bought sleeping-bag systems and pads from Wiggy's in Grand Junction, Colo. Wiggy's supplies cold-weather gear and sleeping-bag systems to Special Forces units, the Marine Corps, SEAL teams; and it's a Wiggy's bag that is standard issue in the Air Force pilot's survival kit.

SEAL Humphries, who is the chief

technical adviser for *Soldier Of Fortune, Inc.* and a leading Hollywood consultant when it comes to militaria and mayhem, bought a Wiggy's sleeping-bag system and pad but was skeptical of the manufacturers' claims for the comfort and warmth of his insulation. After a couple of very cold nights, Humphries, a hard case by most accounts, admitted that Wiggy's system and pad kept him most comfortable sleeping on the ground.

Abell, who is featured as the weapons expert in the *SOF, Inc.* series, is a former U.S. Army Ranger who knows something about outdoor gear. He wore one of Wiggy's insulated jackets during the hunt and pronounced it nicely up to the task.



Hunter John Hogan fires an AR-10 .308 for chronograph.



(Left to right) Brown, Steve Schreiner, Mike Williams and Paul Fanshaw with various items of equipment tested at the camp.

Looking For Elk

During the first few days of the hunt we worked the ridges above the Aspen thickets, using a 15x45X60mm Bausch and Lomb spotting scope to scan the tree lines and creek beds for movement. One large Aspen thicket was so popular several groups of four or so hunters sat in lawn chairs along a ridge line waiting for the elk to emerge around sunset. It must have paid off at some point because not far away beside a tent, two headless elk corpses hung from their hamstrings on an Aspen pole.

Hunting pressure however, had driven the elk herds to lower elevations according to the Colorado Fish and Wildlife Game Warden who visited us. His suggestion we hunt along the fingers of one of the streams, heading off the plateau and down into Escalante Canyon, got us closer to live elk than we had been in the higher elevations. There was plenty of fresh elk sign along the rim of one of the gulches that held a seasonal creek. Two large bulls were flushed by our hunters the first afternoon we tried it.

Dale Fields, the noted guide and fly fishing outfitter from Dillon, Colo., smelled the bulls coming in his direction before he heard them. Yes, bull elk may be cute but they are smelly in the best of situations and worse when their musk glands are overstimulated by any sort of excitement.

The elk were moving fast. Fields said by the time he chambered a cartridge and shouldered his rifle, the two bulls had disappeared into the depths of the thick oak brush. Nonetheless, the actual sighting of the two bulls was enough to keep us hunting the area intensively.

During the following mornings we walked the rims of the deep gulches hoping to catch an elk on the way down or up one of the many steep paths that animals used to cross from ridge to ridge. Closest to the red rock rim of Escalante Canyon there was a great deal of mountain lion sign from seasons past. There were piles of white sun bleached deer bones that were tooth marked and scattered in the manner of the big lions returning several times to eat off a kill. On the tables just below the rimrock there were flocks of turkeys numbering 50 or more and they seemed to know turkey season had long passed.

Elusive Wildlife

One evening just before dark, Col. Brown was staking out a stock watering pond surrounded by elk tracks. His position was right, downwind and hidden by some fallen trees. The elk, however, did not accommodate. Instead of approaching the pond in a manner that would get it killed, it came up behind Brown, snorted several times and disappeared into the darkening

shadows of the forest.

Aside from finding game, the single biggest problems hunters usually have with their riflery is trying to estimate distance. To address that difficulty Bushnell has introduced a new range finder that they call the Yardage Pro 800 which is accurate plus or minus one yard. We tried it first on the rifle range and found it to be absolutely accurate. It works by bouncing laser pulses off a target that are reflected back to receiving optics. A high-speed clock then measures the time required to send and receive the pulse, and the user instantly reads the yardage in the viewfinder.

Although it did not much improve our shooting because we didn't get to sight in on any elk, the 6X Yardage Pro worked admirably on distant trees and rocks. Although this rangefinder is rated as an 800-yard device, in fact it works out to 1,000 on reflective targets like water or road signs. Despite its precision, it's a lightweight but tough piece of gear with a rubber covering to seal out the weather.

In addition to fielding the leading edge technology of Bushnell Yardage Pro, Bob Brown used Bausch and Lomb 10x42 "Elite" binoculars and the same company's 15-45X60mm spotting scope to try to spot elk. The eyecups and focus flexibility of both the spotting scope and the binoculars allowed him to leave his glasses in place while he looked through them.

Shooting Around Corners

Matt Haggerty, who sells high-tech, gee-whiz optical devices to the military and to police and security organizations, brought along a thermal-imaging scope and a miniature video camera-based sight which allows one to shoot a pistol or sub-gun around corners without exposing himself. Interested in a device designed to shoot around corners was Grover Norquist, the well-known political strategist who advises Senate Majority leader Trent Lott and other Republican leaders.

Norquist, who has been into Afghanistan and involved in the worst parts of African wars, has had little experience with a handgun. Nonetheless, he shot a tight off-hand group in the center of a silhouette target 35-yards distant using a .40 S&W caliber Glock mounted with the cornering sighting device. Minutes after mastering that area, Norquist shot another group into the head of the same silhouette target.

Although there was a shortage of elk meat at the Brushy Ridge camp, there was no shortage of firearms. Most of them were traditional scoped bolt-action Remingtons and Winchester with three- or four-round magazines in .30-06, .308 Winchester or some belted magnum cartridge. Brown hunted with his favorite .308 Steyr. Humphries used a Remington .30-06, but there were also some semiautomatic military-style rifles on hand and at least one hunter used a Springfield Armory M1A.

It was at *SOF's* Escalante hunting camp



Norquist tests and evaluates a thermal-imaging scope that enables a shooter to see around corners.

two years ago that Armalite President Mark Westrom test-fired the first rifle off the assembly line of his reintroduced .308 caliber AR-10, which resembles an AR-15 on steroids. Westrom, who is a double-distinguished marksman, demonstrated to us that he built a very high-quality semiautomatic

rifle that groups better than the majority of out-of-the-box factory bolt-action guns. Westrom says his rifles "are all-new, all-American ... and guaranteed for life."

A number of us at the camp had considerable experience with the M-14 and its variants as well as with all of the .308-caliber gas guns made on the planet and there was a general consensus that the Armalite AR-10 is as good as the best of them. It is certainly as dependable and probably more accurate than any of the highly touted H&K 91s or its variations.

Since we test fired the first rifle two years ago, Armalite has put a total of five AR-10 variants into production. This year, Westrom brought four of the five production-AR-10 rifles to the hunting camp. The newest rifle off the Armalite production line, the AR-10 A2, is the infantryman's version. It has a fixed carry handle with national-match sights and carries Armalite's new trademark olive-green buttstock and forend. Although we had little opportunity to group the A2, it was easy to keep all shots in a 6-inch bull firing off-hand at 75 yards. In fact, a majority of the rounds we fired while chronographing all of the AR-10s were very near or in the ten ring.

The purpose of chronographing the four rifles with two different kinds of ammunition was twofold: (1) check the effect of molycoating bullets on velocity; and (2) to check the difference barrel length makes in velocity.

Montana Or Bust

Snow was predicted the day before hunting season ended on the Uncompaghere Plateau. A little snow, just a little, would eliminate the elk's camouflage. The prospect raised our spirits. Unfortunately, if we dalled too long and lots of snow fell, we could very well be trapped on the plateau for some time. If one of us managed to actually drop a bull elk, it would take us another day to gut it, skin it, take it apart and haul it out of the rough country. If the snow got deep it could take days to accomplish the same task and then there was the business of getting it and all of the equipment and people down the Brushy Ridge rough-haul road. We were put in mind of Kipling and the Ford pickup truck at the bottom of the gulch, and decided to break camp before the snow fell.

It's doubtful *SOF* will ever hold another hunting camp on the Uncompaghere Plateau. In the three years we've gone to great trouble and expense, no elk have been taken, although we *know* they are there. Aside from the momentary sight and smell of the big bulls the *only* game taken was a single blue grouse. *SOF* staffer Steve Schreiner shot his head off using a shot cartridge in a .357 Magnum revolver. It was tasty fried-up like chicken, but it was a long-shot from elk steak.

Perhaps next year, we'll try Montana. Then, again, some people we know shot two elk and two deer — just 6 miles west of the *SOF* offices in Boulder, Colo. — while we were up on Brushy Ridge. ☘

Hunters at the 1997 *Soldier Of Fortune* hunting, testing and evaluation camp, used products from the following suppliers and companies:

Ms. Vickie Lawrence
Springfield Armory
420 W. Main Street
Geneseo, IL 61254
tel: 812-422-9999; fax: 309-944-3676

Ms. Barbara Mellman
Bushnell Sports Optics Worldwide
9200 Cody
Overland Park, KS 66214
tel: 913-752-3400; fax: 913-752-3489

Mr. Jeff Hoffman
Black Hills Ammunition
P.O. Box 3090
Rapid City, SD 57701
tel: 605-348-5150; fax: 605-348-9827

Sturm, Ruger and Co., Inc.
200 Ruger Rd
Prescott, AZ 86301-6181
tel: 203-259-4537; fax: 203-259-2167

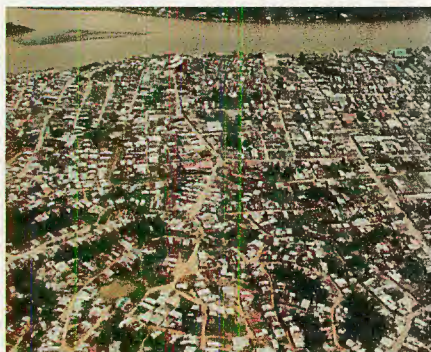
Danner Boots
12722 NE Airport Way
Portland, OR 972301027
tel: 503-251-1100; fax: 503-251-1119

Federal Cartridge Co.
900 Ehlen Dr
Anoka, MN 55303
tel: 612-323-2300; fax: 612-323-2506

A LAW UNTO THEMSELVES

Text & Photos by Dr. Tom Marks

Colombian Militias Ruled Constitutional



Revolutionary groups became a factor in the Choco in the early 1980s, eventually moving into the outskirts of the capital city of Quibdó, with its population variously estimated at 100,000 to 200,000. Their onslaught was stemmed, however, with the mobilization of the local populace into *Convivir* groups.

ON 7 November 1996, Colombia's Supreme Court issued a much-anticipated ruling, declaring armed civilian groups, the "*Rural Security Cooperatives*," or *Convivir*, to be constitutional. The vote was 5-4.

Within the security forces, reaction was jubilant. "Excellent!" enthused a general officer. "The guerrillas run a very violent campaign against the people here, so the people must be allowed to defend themselves!"

Yet the very closeness of the decision highlights the difficulty of waging a counterinsurgency in a democracy, particularly one as sprawling and diverse as Colombia, with a population of 40 million, but including only 178,726 military and 108,300 police.

Faced with brutal insurgents, people are defending themselves. "Self-defense groups have been appearing all over," observes Lieutenant Colonel Paulino Coronado Gamez, commander of Task Force Choco, working in the country's northwest. "They are opposed by some. We have to ask ourselves, who opposes them and why? Left-

wing politicians criticize them, of course, because they're scared ..."

Some 414 *Convivir* ("getting along" in Spanish) groups have registered with the government. They employ 5,500 individuals and coordinate 300,000 volunteers nationwide. At best, they function in the manner of neighborhood watch, using radios to summon authorities. The worse scenario, argued critics, is they often become a law unto themselves, committing crimes.

And there were as many as a thousand

unregistered groups which, armed with everything they could lay their hands on, were committed to an all out war with the insurgents. These "paramilitaries," detractors claimed, controlled entire areas and terrorized the populace.

At least so said human rights advocates leading charges that the *Convivir* were a menace, in violation of constitutional provisions giving the military exclusive commission for national defense.

Thus, incredibly, the case against the



Convivir saw both the federal ombudsman and the United Nations special envoy for human rights argue before the Supreme Court that such groups were unconstitutional — particularly, they claimed, because they often carried weapons other than handguns.

Just as incredibly, while giving the Convivir the nod, the Supreme Court agreed with this interpretation, stating that they could carry only side arms. The decision further stated that groups formed to protect *companies* were unconstitutional. The latter ruling was a direct move against special units being funded by oil interests to protect their regularly sabotaged pipelines and facilities.

A case more out of touch with reality would be hard to imagine. Yet that's the order of the day in the rarefied air of Colombia's elite.

By anyone's standards, the brutal insurgency of three communist guerrilla groups — the *Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia* (Armed Revolutionary Forces of Colombia — FARC), the *Ejercito Popular de Liberacion Nacional* (National Liberation Army — ELN), and the *Ejercito Popular de Liberacion* (People's Liberation Army — EPL) has caused the country to come apart at the seams. Terror is their major weapon, drugs their major source of funding. They kill at will.

Yet in Bogota, "useful idiots" — useful

to the side of terror — argue that the people have no right to defend themselves.

For supporters of "getting along," the problem is just as serious in the opposite way: Not only are Convivir absolutely necessary, they needed to be "upgunned," to be a more formidable deterrent! And this is precisely what has happened nationwide, where some of the most savage fighting now is between paramilitary groups and insurgents.

And anytime something goes wrong, the critics attack the concept of self-defense. What they should be examining are the realities on the ground.

Truly A People's War

That was why I was talking to Colonel Coronado. Headquartered at Quibdo, his task force had been deployed by the 4th Brigade, to Choco, "the black department." There, the ELN's 10th Front, in the south, and FARC's 57th Front, in the north, operating in conjunction with EPL elements, were terrorizing the 410,00 predominantly black inhabitants. The ELN and FARC strengths were estimated at 60 and 80, respectively. They might have had double that when affiliated groups were included.

Deployed against them were Task Force Choco's 10 platoons: seven infantry, two mortar, and one engineer. This gave the government a manpower edge, but it was

still 10 small platoons to watch over 25,172 square kilometers (9,719 square miles).

A lowland territory centered upon the basins of three rivers — Rio Atrato, Rio Bando, and Rio San Juan — the Choco, which borders on the Pacific Ocean and Panama, is cut off geographically from the rest of the country by the *Cordillera Occidental* (western mountains). It is separated racially by the fact that virtually all its people are black, descendants of escaped slaves, in a country dominated by Latinos.

When insurgency became a factor in the late 1980s, rebel groups claimed to be fighting for self-determination of this black population. *Organizacion Revolucionarias Negritud Colombias* (Revolutionary Organization of Blacks of Colombia — ORNC) took the lead.

By August 1993, ORNC, which had been absorbed by the ELN's 10th Front, went public: It burned a bus load of 21, nine soldiers and 12 civilians. It followed with the normal tactics of any infant guerrilla movement: murder, arson and vandalism, robbery and extortion, and kidnapping (often for ransom).

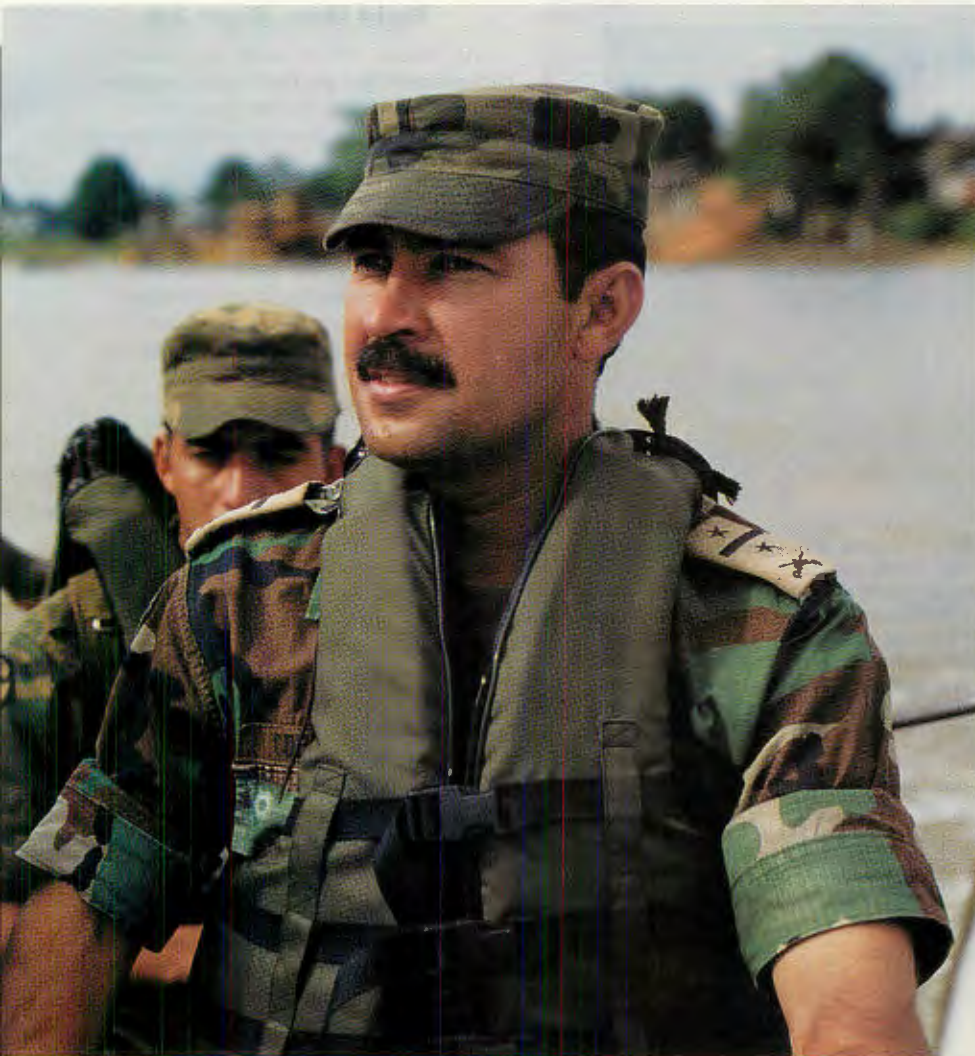
The victims, naturally enough, were mainly black. So much for racial liberation.

By 1995, desperate local authorities (all elected, as Colombia remains a functioning, albeit wounded, democracy) called for help. The response of the army's 4th Brigade, which had responsibility for Choco, was to dispatch the task force, which gradually dominated the area. Deployed in platoon bases, from which they launched smaller patrols, the soldiers chased the guerrillas while the police secured populated areas and carried out the normal police functions. Yet there was no way, given the jungled, wet terrain, the size of Choco, and the scattered nature of the population, that the security forces could prevent incidents. And every response was arduous, because all movement was by foot or river craft.

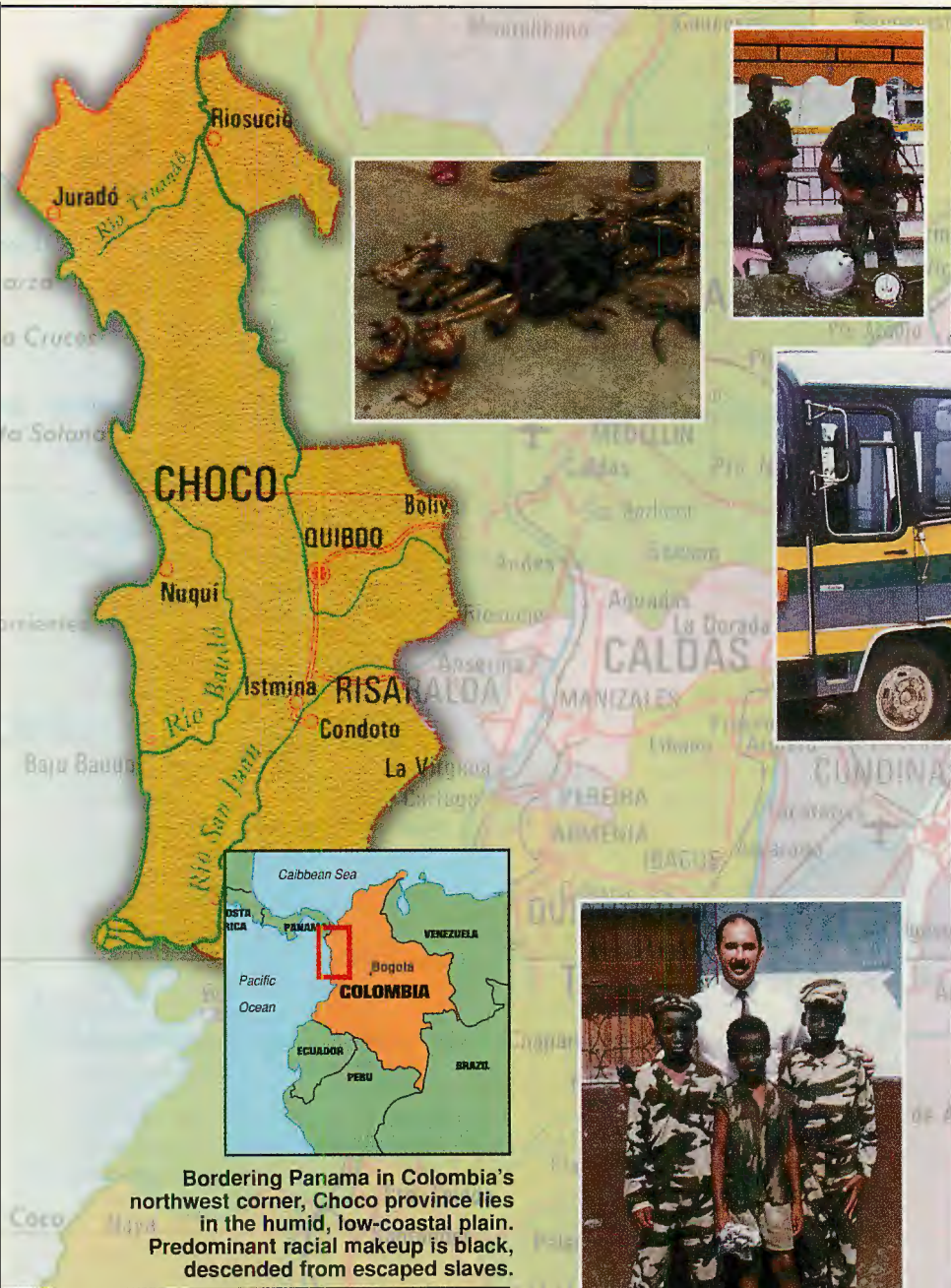
The answer was to mobilize the populace, the very approach the Colombian Supreme Court would only narrowly validate by its 5-4 decision.

Yet what other approach could there be? "We have no militias," says Brigadier General Carlos Ospina, 4th Brigade's commander and Coronado's superior, "But we cannot be everywhere. So the guerrillas know this concept [Convivir] is very dangerous. That's why they attack it so hard."

Certainly the inhabitants of Choco agreed, for they quickly rallied around the task force in their own defense. The key



Since his assignment as task force commander in 1995, Lt. Col. Paulino Coronado (right) has turned the situation around in the Choco. His extensive background in psychological warfare enabled him to develop an effective network of "neighborhood watch" elements, combined with community programs and street-level intelligence assets. These elements combined have left terrorist guerrillas with no "sea to swim in."



By August 1993, the local ORNC rebels had been absorbed by the ELN's 10th Front, who originally supplied the new group with arms and training. They soon were using the classic weapons of any terrorist guerrilla movement: murdering policemen (far left), and vandalism and "propaganda of the deed" (below). But the tide turned strongly against them when they planted a fragmentation bomb in a market area: Army made it centerpiece at festive anti-guerrilla rally (left).

event was the assignment of Coronado as the task force commander in the last quarter of 1995.

Right Man, Right Job

An armor officer with an extensive background in psychological warfare, Coronado came to the assignment with a definite vision of how counterinsurgency was to be waged.

Above all, Coronado recognized that what was at hand was a war for, of, and by the populace. Since the populace was already on the side of the government, what was necessary was to capitalize on this orientation.

"First you convince the people not to go with the guerrillas," he told me one day. "Then you begin to attack the will of the insurgents."

Convincing the people was easy, since the behavior of the insurgents had thoroughly alienated them. The needful was to provide them with security. Enter the Convivir.

Coronado organized "neighborhood watch" throughout his AO. At the core were some 300 former servicemen, given small salaries for part-time work as watchers. With them were hundreds of volunteers. Equipped with radios, they reported any suspicious activity to a reinvigorated security structure that linked the military and the police with local authorities.

A turning point was March 1996, when insurgents planted a bomb, packed with shrapnel, in a market area of Quibdo. Discovered by Coronado's men, it was defused and then used as the star attraction at a festive anti-guerrilla rally — where it was safely exploded to demonstrate the ruthless terror it would have caused. As a result, further volunteers streamed into the Convivir.

Each step forward was used as a building stone to erect a barrier between the pop-



Lt. Col. Coronado with youthful volunteers (above). When the guerrillas showed their hand as garden-variety terrorists, even street kids wanted to join the communal effort against them. (left) Local volunteers prepare to march through Quibdo in large, well-received anti-guerrilla rally. Hundreds of common folks marched through the streets condemning violence and guerrilla activity (below).





Captured/surrendered guerrilla arsenal in the Choco comprises usual eclectic/available assortment of sporting arms, old military arms — even a Steyr AUG (on table) — plus the 20th century's ubiquitous rebel arm the AK-47 (above), and various issue or improvised explosives used in lieu of support weapons.



ulation and the insurgents. Rallies were held, at which hundreds of Convivir marched, denouncing the violence inflicted upon their communities. Children competed in poster and slogan contests. Guerrilla surrenderees symbolically turned in their weapons and gave testimonials denouncing their former comrades.

All of this had a dramatic effect. In 1996, for example, there were 25 kidnappings in Quibdo: In 1997 there were none.

Throughout Choco, the people functioned as the eyes and ears of the security forces, rather than as a part of the cutting edge. That role was reserved for the military.

Small Unit Warfare

Acting upon the excellent intelligence that began to flow to his units, Coronado sent his forces on a wide variety of operations: normally squad-sized, short, sharp encounters fought with rifles and grenade launchers.

Contacts were often a very close-in, personal sort of battle, with taunts exchanged on more than one occasion. In one highly successful ruse, the location of an insurgent band was pinpointed by a defector. A group of black soldiers dressed as locals made their way to the area, posing as partying villagers. Merrily, with much display of booze and fellowship, they passed the guerrilla position.

Some of the soldiers were even disguised as women, who waved at the insurgents. They waved back.

Moving quickly when out of sight down river, the soldiers landed. They circled back and caught the guerrillas by surprise. So ended the brief reign of terror of a local insurgent leader known only as "alias Walter."

His place was taken by "the Panamanian," *Panameno*, but his end was no different. Targeted by intelligence provided by the Convivir, he was killed in a similar raid.

Virtually all such operations, it should be noted, were conducted using only the assets available in the area, but what gave military operations a particular edge, of course, was

the accompanying Convivir campaign. With even five-year-old kids informing on them, there was nowhere the insurgents could go without being identified and harried.

Swimming Like Fish In A Drying Pond

In 1996, 18 surrendered.

"We have been able to use them in psy-war activity," explains Coronado. "We take care of them. They are eventually reunited with their families. The others see this, that the army has won the confidence of even their comrades."

In the ultimate tribute, surrenderees often seek to enlist in the military. Though there is no formal program for taking advantage of these changes of heart, some individuals are allowed to formally cross over into the ranks. They then play an



Guerrillas' demise: insurgent leader known only as "alias Walter" (above) was fingered by Convivir. Troops, dressed as partying locals (some as women) encircled guerrilla camp. He was replaced by "the Panamanian" (below) — also targeted by local intelligence — who met a similar end, in a similar raid.



important role due to their knowledge of local conditions and individuals.

A War For Colombia's Youth

It is the young who are most susceptible to the insurgent message. It is they who are idealistic and seek to build a better world. It is they, too, who are restless and willing to jump quickly into unvetted causes.

To dwell for a moment upon a point: Why Coronado? Why the army to fight a political battle? After all, there are those in Colombia itself who claim the military has no business being involved in "propaganda."

But be involved it must, because in a developing country such as Colombia, there is no one else, no other institution to do what Coronado and his troops accomplish. Ideally, any program they institute passes over, in time, to civilian hands. Yet for the time being they are paid to be the experts in war, whatever its form.

Says Coronado's commander Ospina, "You need some minimum in order for democracy to function. Conditions are different everywhere [in the world]. Here, the army provides the glue."

More glue than normal is required, because the system has come "unstuck" under insurgent assault. Attacks on elected officials and infrastructure are a daily occurrence. In the run up to the October elections for local officials, the insurgents struck often and widely. Their goal was to invalidate the very exercise of the democratic franchise.

Even the courts no longer function normally — this while myopic critics remain focused on alleged human rights violations.

In Choco, as in Colombia in general, there are any number of concerns which can rally insurgent followers. Likewise, there are functioning mechanisms — imperfect to be sure, but functioning — for addressing those concerns.

Nevertheless, a goodly number of those who can be mobilized as a result of society's imperfections have been organized by

Continued on page 85

Acronym Turf Wars

Acronym Turf Wars
Acronym Turf Wars

FBI Fights CIA For Russia

Budapest, Hungary — Somewhere on a dark, Cold War-era West Berlin street corner John Le Carre's eternal spymaster, George Smiley, must be frowning.

After more than four decades of fighting brush-fire wars against Kremlin-supported "liberation" movements, staving off KGB infiltration and playing a large role in the defeat of Communism, the CIA finds itself head-to-head with an unlikely competitor — the Federal Bureau of Investigation — for control of its traditional overseas turf.

"It was bound to happen," said "Jerry," a contract analyst for the CIA in Sarajevo. "When the Berlin Wall came down the CIA realized its assets were in no position to fight real crime. They were gentlemen. These Russian Mafia guys are not gentlemen, and so the FBI, looking for any excuse

to muscle-out the Agency, started finding ways to get a toe-hold in Eastern Europe."

Jerry (not his real name) said the CIA was in no position to argue. The Agency was facing congressional pressure at home to quantify its existence and the "Evil Empire" was no longer a serious threat.

G-Man Allure

"Let's face it, the Agency doesn't like putting a sign out every time it initiates an operation," Jerry went on. "The FBI, on the other hand, is all about getting publicity and flashing those three letters around everywhere they can. There's also that G-Man allure — J. Edgar Hoover. The Russians, everyone respects the name and so here they (the FBI) are crawling all over, setting up shop and bagging bad guys."

Case in point, the recent arrest of the CIA's public enemy number one.

In the early hours of Sunday 15 June, five FBI agents, wearing traditional tribal clothing, quietly pulled up outside a mud-spattered hostel in southern Afghanistan, walked up the stairs and knocked on the door of Mir Amal Kansi, the world's most wanted man and the recently convicted suspect in the deadly 1993 shooting outside of CIA headquarters, in Langley, Va.

A brief scuffle ensued and before Kansi could spit out a second barrage of Pathan obscenities he was cuffed and stuffed into an awaiting vehicle for the long flight back to an awaiting Virginia jail cell.

The FBI, with the aid of Pakistan's spy agency, Inter-services Intelligence, had reached out across thousands of miles and gotten their man. In snatching Kansi the

Text & Photos by Mark H. Milstein



Perhaps the biggest threat to CIA power in the former Communist Bloc emanates from the J. Edgar Hoover Building, in Washington, D.C., which is headquarters of the FBI. Under

new circumstances of the post Cold War-era, the CIA finds itself head-to-head with the FBI for control over its traditional overseas turf.

Bureau had both stolen a bit of the CIA's thunder and moved one step further from the black clouds hanging over it since Ruby Ridge, TWA 800 and its failure to find "John Doe 2."

"We've been working for quite a number of years to develop the kinds of relationships with various international law-enforcement agencies that allowed us to arrest a guy like Kansi," said an FBI agent on temporary duty to the International Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA) in Budapest. "Believe me, it wasn't easy. The ILEA is part of the greater plan to create relationships with those law-enforcement agencies, as well as provide them with the skills to help them stem the growth of terrorism, organized crime and drug trafficking."

"Quantico East"

Nicknamed "Quantico East," the ILEA is the only FBI-directed law-enforcement academy outside the United States, and draws its students from police departments and law-enforcement agencies throughout the former Communist Bloc and Central Asia.

Since 1995, the ILEA has modeled its eight-week course on the FBI's own "personal and professional development program" taught at their academy, in Quantico, Va.

The ILEA's instructors are a combination of visiting FBI special agents, Hungarian police and experts from Interpol, Britain's Scotland Yard, the IRS, DEA, the U.S. Department of Energy's NEST team and the U.S. Treasury Department's counterfeiting squad.

The relationships forged at the ILEA between FBI instructors and cops from Moscow, Kiev, Zagreb, Bucharest, Sofia, Belgrade, Prague, and Warsaw have paid off one hundred fold, according to FBI agent and ILEA program manager-director Leslie Kaciban, Jr.

"We've gotten tips on nuclear smuggling rings, drug and weapon shipments, prostitution, money laundering, and have finally started to get a handle on the Russian mafia," said Kaciban.

A "Not Friendly" Relationship

The FBI has also sent more than 30 "legal attachés" abroad to postings at strategic U.S. embassies, creating what one for-

mer official of the U.S. embassy in Budapest called "a competitive, and many times not friendly" relationship between the Bureau and the CIA.

"There's competition, I can say that," said "Jennifer Dunn" (not her real name), a former USIS official in Budapest. "I think the CIA resident began to feel that the newly assigned FBI agents were moving in on his territory. They are professional with each other, but I don't think they are friends."

Kaciban defended the FBI's strategy of a forward defense against crime beyond the borders of the United States, but admitted that it has problems.

"In Russia, for example, we have an ongoing cooperative effort with the Ministry of Interior (MVD) and the Federal Security Service (the former KGB)," said Kaciban. "I wouldn't say it's been a perfect relationship, but we've got to start somewhere and even if we get just one lead and are able to break one case then I'd say we've done a good job."

One FBI agent stationed in Poland told *SOF* that Kaciban was being too kind in his assessment of the relationship between the Russians and the FBI.

"The Russians are as manipulative and dangerous as they ever were," said Andre Zawikowski, the FBI's "legal attaché" at the U.S. embassy, in Warsaw, Poland. "They've made requests for information

that we believed was going to be used to help certain law-enforcement elements with ties to organized crime. They many times have not been as cooperative as they should be on the smuggling of nuclear weapons, terrorism and the mafia. They are cooperative when it suits them. When it doesn't, it's back to the old days.

Out With Old, In With New

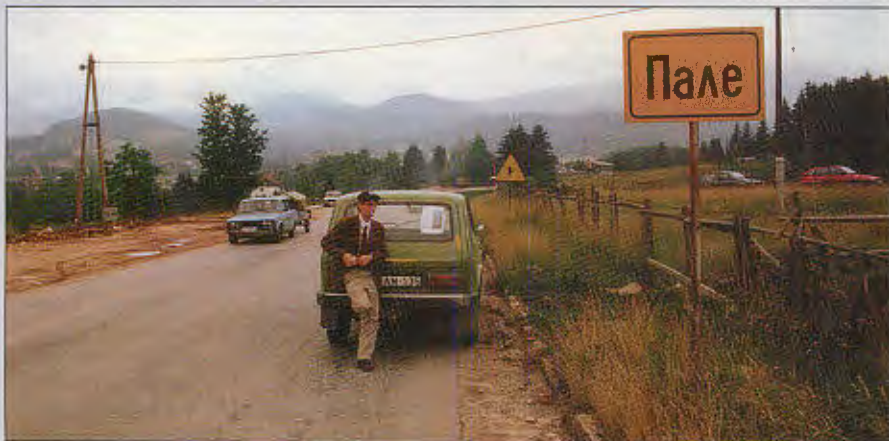
In the "old days" the CIA controlled assets all over Eastern Europe, burrowing moles at the highest levels in enemy governments and settling scores with "wet jobs" carried out by contract workers.

Today, however, you're more likely to find the Agency tracking cyber-criminals and foiling industrial espionage than toppling dictators and knocking out enemy agents. Except in Bosnia, that is, where the CIA has been keeping tabs on international war criminals, such as Radovan Karadzic and his general Ratko Mladic.

Employing an unknown number of operatives, the CIA has been at the lead in keeping tabs on both men as well as many other low-profile war criminals.

In July, for example, the CIA in concert with NATO special forces comprised of U.S. Army Delta Force and British Special Air Service (SAS) troops put together

Continued on page 79



(above) The International Law Enforcement Agency (ILEA) is part of a plan to create relationships with various international law-enforcement agencies. As the only FBI-directed law-enforcement academy outside the United States, ILEA draws students from police departments throughout the former Communist Bloc and Central Asia. It teaches them to deal with growing terrorism, organized crime and drug trafficking. (left) Jim Bartlett, *SOF*'s Bosnia adviser, stands outside the home of Bosnian Serb war criminal Radovan Karadzic, whom the CIA is watching. The CIA, once famous for knocking out foreign enemy agents, today spends more of its time tracking cyber-criminals and foiling industrial espionage.

a mine is a terrible thing to waste

by Richard L. Sherrow

Photos courtesy author



Not surprisingly, left-wing activists want the United States to give up land mines first. They ignore the fact the U.S. leads the rest of the world in developing totally self-sterilizing and “smart” mines – designed to blow up enemies, not kids. Without their availability, the void would flood with a whole new unsophisticated crop of improvised mines and booby traps with no humanitarian safeguards. Like most crude weapons, they would kill and maim without discretion.

Bloody Stumps And Reality

A document stating U.N.’s International Standards for Humanitarian Mine Clearance Operations says: “The target for all U.N.-sponsored mine-clearance programs is the removal of all mines and unexploded ordnance to a depth of 200 mm.” Looks good in lieu of missing limbs. Sounds stupid when weighed against fact.

As EOD supervisor at White Sands Missile Range, the General Staff once asked me what it would take, and how long, to clear all of the unexploded ordnance from the 4,000-square mile range. After pondering the question I replied, “One hundred EOD troops working six days a week for five years.” Providing, I added, the wind never blows and it never rains again; all weapons firing ceases; and no one had ever dug up the ground. That task alone was monumental, if not impossible — and we had no land mines.

In Bosnia-Herzegovina, roughly the size of Tennessee, the U.N. Mine Action Center (MAC) has estimated 1,000 mine clearers would need 33 years to cover all of the mined areas. Cambodia, the group concedes, could never be cleared of mines. Despite this, some of the more optimistic consultants believe all the world’s mines can be cleared — in just more than 1,000 years at a cost of roughly \$35 billion, providing no new mines are laid.

In the past, landmine use was pretty much restricted to “official” warring armies. They were a commander’s dream. They planted mines to protect their battlefield positions, to channel an enemy’s movements and to wreak general death, destruction and harassment on their foe.

Kids without limbs. The ghastly sight of their bloody stumps bombarded TV sets after a car crash killed Princess Diana — who’d launched a royal crusade against land mines.

Within days of her death, land mines became *cause celebre* for the United Nations and much of the industrialized world. The goal: Dig ’em up, throw ’em out and make no more.

It’s the feel-good cause of the moment for those sincerely saddened by infant amputees and the death of their advocate, an immortalized media icon.

In truth, it’s a childish, no-win goal. Despite the noble cause, we will be witness to another episode of

Hollyanna meets the real world. Futile attempts to rid the world of land mines could cost billions and even backfire on innocent children in embattled Third-World nations.

No one hates land mines and unexploded ordnance more than those of us who have to render them safe. But, they are here and always will be. By current estimates, more than 100 million of these killers are hidden in the ground worldwide.

Some of the U.S. groups that have jumped on the ban-land mines bandwagon are righteous, sincere, and understandably naive to the issue. The majority, however, can be found on who’s who lists of the far left.

They mined and booby-trapped roads, fields, rivers and streams.

World events of the past decade, however, changed all that. As communist insurgency spread around the globe, so did amateur use of land mines. Mines by the millions were put in the hands of Third-World sheep-dips, many of whom were still struggling to comprehend the internal-combustion motor.

Dime-Store Mines

In no time, mines were sprouting like weeds. From the jungles of Angola to the rice paddies of Vietnam, mines were the

actually *move* several feet from where they were laid.

Then there's the human factor. To trick the enemy, either side in a conflict may move the other's mines. This, of course, renders useless all maps, records and memories.

Mines Throughout History

Although widely considered a modern weapon, land mines go back hundreds of years. Even before the advent of gunpowder the concept was developed for delivering a surprise blow right under the enemy's feet. Tunneling under the defensive walls around ancient cities, soldiers of yore would

name "mine" evolved to mean any underground operation.

Later, with the introduction of gunpowder to the battlefield, it was a natural transition to pack the tunnels with explosives. The most memorable event in this new art of warfare took place on 7 June 1917, near the Belgian village of Ypres, when British troops packed more than one million pounds of ammonium nitrate explosives into 23 separate tunnels — all to be ignited simultaneously. In the pre-dawn hours before the massive explosion, British General Plumer opined, "Gentlemen, we may not make history tomorrow,

Banning Land Mines: Fact vs. Fiction

weapon of choice — the poor man's equalizer. These bundles of joy were no longer limited to warring armies at the direction of well-trained commanders. In many places civilians adopted a mine culture. Pissed at your neighbor? Plant a few mines around his hooch. The next morning, *boom*. End of dispute.

For the most part, mines were much safer in the hands of large, organized militaries. Commanders devised methods of minefield record-keeping, knowing they might occupy tomorrow a position they mined today. Despite the best intentions, however, many records were lost or destroyed. The mines stayed, poised for duty.

Even in the hands of responsible parties, with detailed records, mines get left behind. Thank Mother Nature, in part. When the ground freezes some mines may explode from ice pressure, while others "lock up" and don't function even when stepped on. Come spring thaw and heavy rains, the soil becomes semi-liquid causing minefields to migrate. Individual mines may



In many regions of the globe, civilians adopted a "land mine culture" during the Cold War. Today, it's a culture of amputees.

courtesy Dirk Elliott

but we will certainly change the geography."

Modern Mines

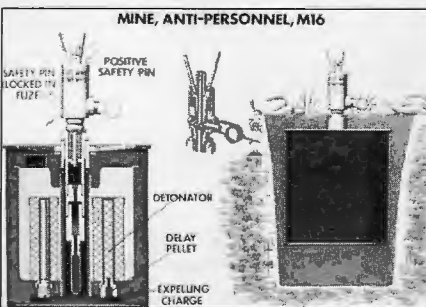
The modern land mine had its true beginning in World War I. It was designed to counter another new weapon of war — the tank. Buried explosives were fitted with pressure fuses or command firing wires and laid in the paths of these lumbering steel giants. Thus, was born the anti-tank (AT) land mine. The anti-personnel (AP) mine, the next step, was inevitable. To protect their tanks, armies sent in troops to remove the AT mines. To protect the mines, and play hell with the infantry who followed the tanks, the AP mine was born.

Although land mines come in all shapes and sizes, and more than 600 models, all fit into two

basic families: anti-personnel and anti-tank. From these two families, land mines branch into an array of specialized categories.

Anti-Personnel Mines

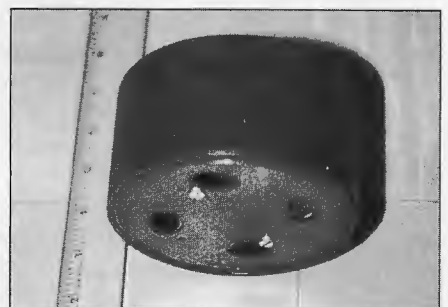
Anti-personnel mines are the hardest to detect and the most frequently encountered.



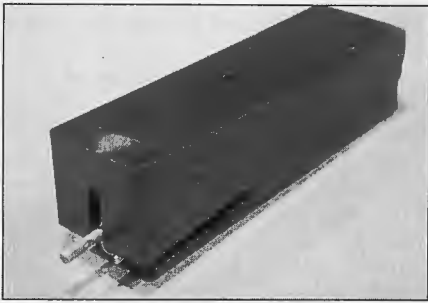
The modern land mine traces its roots back to World War I. The first mines used in World War I were designed to cripple or destroy enemy tanks. To protect tanks, armies sent out troops to remove anti-tank mines. To protect the anti-tank mines, the anti-personnel mine, such as the modern version pictured here, was born.



Simply finding most mines is a crude science at best, and difficult-to-impossible at worst. Once located, mine clearers must determine whether a mine is live or inactive, and determine the best way to safely eradicate it. More than 600 styles of common mines are found throughout the world, and most come with no instructions.



Mines, once the domain of well-organized armies, have for four decades fallen into the hands of guerrillas, terrorists and civilians. They have been deployed in a wide variety of manner for as many reasons. This U.S. ADAM trip wire AP blast mine can be delivered by artillery fire into enemy territory.



(above) Mines left over from the Cold War, when mine warfare was in vogue, include this Soviet-made PMD-6 AP wooden box mine. (below) The directional fragmentation anti-personnel mine is designed to take out large numbers of oncoming enemy troops. Imagine scores of 12-gauge shotguns clustered together to simultaneously fire steel buckshot into a crowd. That's the concept behind this Austrian APM-1 AP directional fragmentation mine.



In conventional military operations the ratio of AP to AT mines can be 2 to 1, or better. In unconventional, guerrilla, or terrorist ops, this figure may be 50 to 1 or higher.

Designed and employed for various needs, the AP mine takes only a few pounds of pressure or trip-wire pull to function and generally present the greatest threat to combatants and non-combatants alike. In addition, some AP mines are armed with anti-disturbance fuses.

AP Blast Mine: Among the most commonly encountered AP mines, the blast type is generally small, non-metallic, and very difficult to detect. Normally a pressure-fired mine, it causes severe injury to the person stepping on it, most often mangling or blowing off a foot or part of a leg. Tactically, this makes it a good weapon because it often takes two able-bodied troops to evacuate the casualty from the battlefield, thereby, having a "three-for-one" effect. Prime examples of this type of mine are the Russian PMN, the Belgian NR 409 and the U.S. M-14.

Non-Bounding AP Fragmentation Mine: Normally fired by a trip-wire, this mine is akin to having a fragmentation grenade explode at your feet. The unfortunate victim is normally killed and those near him wounded. Two examples of this mine are the Vietnamese P 40 "Ball Mine" and the Russian POMZ 2 stake mine. An added hazard of the POMZ 2 mines is the fact their wooden stakes rot over time leaving the mines dangling from trip-wires.

Bounding AP Fragmentation Mine: Normally buried just below the earth's surface, this beer can-shaped mine is design to function by trip-wire, direct pressure, or, in the case of the Russian OZM-3, may be electrically command fired. Upon functioning the mine bounds several feet into the air before exploding. The resulting frag kills or injures personnel several meters from the blast. Other examples of this style of mine are the Czech PP-Mi-Sr and the U.S. M-16A1.

Directional Fragmentation Mine: Imagine scores of 12-gauge shotguns clustered together simultaneously, firing steel buckshot into a crowd. That's the concept and effect of a directed frag AP mine. Aimed toward an expected troop advance



Mines can be complex or simple, such as this U.S.-made anti-personnel gravel mine. In recent years, the United States has led the world in production of so-called "smart mines," designed to detonate or shut down over time to avoid unwanted casualties to U.S. troops or innocent foreign civilians.

land mine sitrep

More than 600 models of land mines are found around the world. Coupled with the latest estimate of more than 110 million of these mines actually in the ground and another 100 million in stockpiles, odds are fair that sooner than later the intrepid globe-tripping soldier of fortune will wind up in a close encounter of the explosive kind with one of these hidden killers.

From Afghanistan to Zaire, and points between, land mines pose a serious problem in at least 68 countries. That most of these nations fall into the "third-world" category comes as no surprise. As much as *Soldier Of Fortune* would love to detail each and every affected country, space simply won't permit it. However, we will toss out a few of the more heavily mined areas, and some of the more common mines encountered.

Afghanistan

Described as "one big minefield," Afghanistan holds the dubious honor of being first on the land mine hit parade with more than 15 million mines still in the ground. During 10 long years of Soviet occupation, Russian forces that gassed and staffed their way across Afghanistan also sowed a deadly crop of mines.

The ouster of Soviets from the country did little to ease internal strife. Even as the Russians were driven out, religious fighting and mine sowing continued. The 1994/95 *Taliban* winter offensive saw a new onslaught of land-mine planting. It was during this period that Kabul became the third most heavily mined area in Afghanistan.

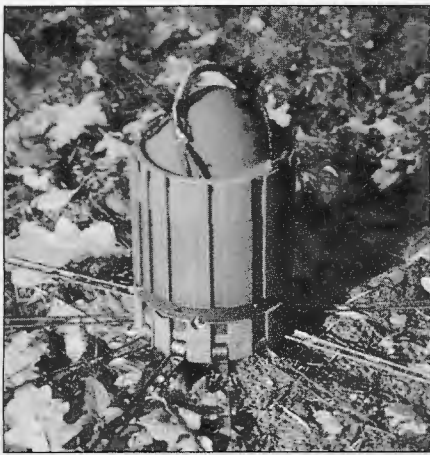
Some of the more than 45 different types of mines found in Afghanistan include:

- Type 69: Chicom bounding AP frag mine (copy of USSR OZM4).
- Type 72: Chicom non-metallic AP blast mine.
- PP-Mi-Sr: Czech bounding AP frag mine.
- PT-M-K: Czech AT mine.
- SB-33: Italian scatterable, blast-resistant, low-metal, contact AP blast mine
- SH-55: Italian non-metallic AT blast mine.
- MON-50: USSR AP directional frag mine (copy of U.S. M18A1 Claymore).
- MON-100 & MON-200: USSR cylindrical AP directional frag mines.
- OZM Series: USSR bounding AP frag mines.
- PNM Series: USSR wooden or plastic bodied AP "box" blast mines.
- PFM Series: USSR scatterable, non-metallic blast mines.
- POMZ 2 & POMZ 2M: USSR trip-wired AP frag, stake mines.
- PMA- IA: Yugoslav plastic AP mine.
- RAP-2: Zimbabwean AP mine.
- TM 41, 46, 57, 62, 62M: USSR AT blast mines.
- TMD Series: USSR AT "box7" mines.
- TMK-2: USSR tilt-rod, platter charge AT mine.
- VS-Mk2: Singapore made Italian plastic AP blast mine.

Angola

With an estimated 15 million planted mines, this southwest African country comes in second on the list. After years of Cuban military "assistance" and more on-than-off bush wars, this former Portuguese colony boasts at least 61 various mine types.

- APM-1 & 2: Austrian tripod mounted directional AP frag mines.
- GYATA-64: Hungarian plastic AP mine.
- Mk 59 (NE APDV 59): French plastic AP mine.



Some anti-tank mines are designed only to disable a tank by blowing off a wheel or steel track. This West German AT 2 platter-charge, armor-piercing mine is designed to kill personnel inside of a tank. The AT 2 platter-charge is generally set up to be tripped by any tank that rolls over it.

route, these mines, fired by trip-wire or command detonation, project hundreds of lethal steel balls or metal squares in a fan-shaped pattern into oncoming troops. Among the best known of these mines are the U.S. M18A1 Claymore, the Russian MON 50, and the Yugoslavian MRUD.

Anti-Tank Mines

Normally containing several pounds of high explosives, Anti-tank mines can range from those that blow off a track or wheel to those that actually "kill" a tank and everyone in it. AT mines are normally fitted with pressure, magnetic, or acoustic fuses and are often equipped with booby traps and/or anti-disturbance mechanisms.

AT Blast Mines: These are designed pri-

marily to stop a tank or other vehicle by blowing off a track or wheel. They may be constructed of wood, metal, plastic or plain bare explosive and usually require downward pressure of a few hundred pounds to set them off. Common examples are the Russian TM-62M and the Czech PT-Mi-Ba III.

AT Plate Charge (Miznay Schardin Effect) Mine: Known as "tank killers," these mines normally function by means of a tilt-rod fuse to ensure the mine goes off under the target vehicle. The explosion drives a metal plate through the belly of the tank. This sometimes blows off the turret, killing the tank and crew. Examples of these mines are the U.S. M21 and the Yugoslavian TMRP-6.

AT "Off-Road" Mine: This off-road

mine can be as simple as the U.S. M24. It's designed to avoid conventional detection by not being placed in roadways where mines are expected. The M24 consists of an M28A2 3.5-inch anti-tank rocket, a short-tube launcher and a firing mechanism. The mine and rocket can be hidden up to 30 meters off a roadway. When a tank or other vehicle sets off the firing mechanism, the rocket fires into the target vehicle. The rocket may also be command fired. These mines are designed to kill the target. Other mines of this type are the Austrian SMI 22/7C and British Adder.

Continued on page 82

- No. 4: Israeli AP blast mine.
- PPM-2: Czech plastic, piezoelectric fused AP mine.
- PP-Mi-Sr: Czech bounding AP frag mine (modification of WVM German "S" mine).
- PP-Mi-Sk: Czech stake-mounted AP frag mine.
- PP-Mi-Ba-IH: Czech non-metallic AT mine.
- PP-AC-D: Czech wooden AP blast mine (copy of USSR PMD-6).
- PRB M35: Belgian plastic AP mine.
- PSM-1: Bulgarian bounding AP frag mine.
- Type 69: Chicom bounding AP frag mine.
- Type 72a & b: Chicom plastic AP mine.
- VAR-100: Italian plastic AP blast mine.

Cambodia

Three decades of war and roughly 15 million mines places Cambodia third on the hit parade. Approximately 3,600 square kilometers of the country are mined. The largest field, known as the K-5, runs the entire 600-kilometer length of the Cambodia/Thailand border and contains from 2 to 3 million mines. So great is the problem Cambodia has a "Mine Awareness Day" on 24 February.

Although demining efforts are ongoing, not all parties are in agreement. In August 1996, Christopher Howes, the British head of the mine-clearing Mine Advisory Group, was abducted and murdered by the Khmer Rouge. Some of more than three dozen models of mines to be found in Cambodia are:

- M15: U.S. metallic AT blast mine.
- M16A1: U.S. bounding frag mine.
- MBV 72 A2: Vietnamese AP frag mine.
- NMH 10: Vietnamese circular directional frag mine.

- MON 50: USSR directional frag mine (copy of U.S. M18A1 Claymore).
- NR 409: Belgian plastic AP mine.
- OZM series: USSR bounding AP frag mines.
- P 40 "ball mine": Round Vietnamese AP frag mine (made from U.S. BLU-24 & BLU-66 series bomblets).
- PMD-6: USSR wooden AP blast mine.
- PNN series: USSR plastic AP blast mines.
- POMZ & POMZ 2M: USSR AP frag, trip-wire stake mines.
- PP-Mi-Sr: Czech bounding AP frag mine.
- PPM-2: East German plastic, piezoelectric pressure-fused, AP blast mine.
- PSM-1: Bulgarian bounding AP frag mine.
- TM-46, 57 & 62: USSR metallic AT blast mines.

Bosnia-Herzegovina

For decades this area, formerly known as Yugoslavia, was one of the world's top land-mine producers. Now, with the collapse of the Soviet Union, it is reaping what it had for so many years sown. As the IFOR troops have discovered, the current warring factions have used mines at every turn. The U.N. Mine Action Center (MAC) has estimated that it will take 1,000 mine clearers 33 years to cover all mine contaminated areas in Bosnia and Croatia. The most commonly encountered mines are:

- NMUD: Yugoslav directional AP frag mine.
- PMA: Yugoslav AP box mine.
- PMR: Yugoslav AP frag mine.
- PROM: Yugoslav bounding AP frag mine.
- TMA series: Yugoslav plastic or fiberglass-coated AT blast mines.
- TMM: Yugoslav cylindrical AT blast mine.
- TNW: Yugoslav plastic Miznay-Schardin (plate charge) AT mine.

MERCO'S

MULTI-TOOLS

SOF T&Es A Great New Crop Of Hip-Pocket Tool Boxes

Text & Photos by Don McLean

As modern life becomes more dependent on mechanical contrivances, more dependent have we become on a tool of greater sophistication than a scout knife to keep these necessary things tinkered into a functional state. The recent phenomenon that answers this need is the multi-tool. What follows is an assessment of some new offerings.

We tested these tools and can recommend them as good products; we have dealt with each of these manufacturers/importers, and can recommend them as people you'd want to deal with. As a single source for these — or other hard-use gear — we highly recommend U.S. Cavalry, Dept. SOF, 2855 Centennial Ave., Radcliff, KY 40160; phone: 800-317-9455.

Leatherman Super Tool

It's always a pleasure to T&E anything from Leatherman. It was Tim Leatherman who suffered the need for a single, have-it-with-you tool that *really* served a multitude of functions and responded by cross-breeding a butterfly knife with pliers, then filling the grips with assorted useful blades and drivers. In so doing he started an industry.

Leatherman's tools have gone on to set the standard of this industry because of his absolutely uncompromising quality control. His high standards have forced any

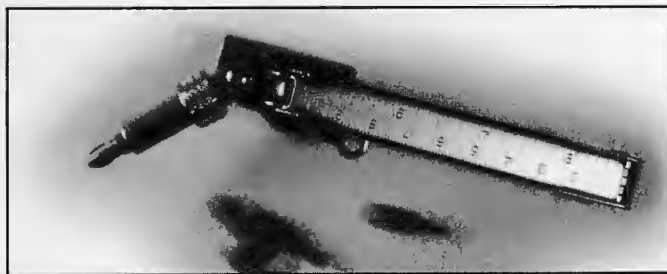
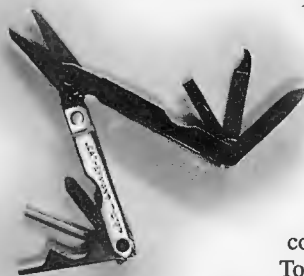
Leatherman's Super Tool is latest refinement of implement that created an American industry; clever new adapter (right) allows use of myriad hex-shank tools. (above, right) Diminutive, capable Micra is latest in Leatherman line.

would-be competitors also to do good work, and in the finest tradition of competition and free enterprise, the consumer has been the ultimate winner.

Because of differences in design and tool selection, one of Leatherman's meritorious competitors may make more sense for a particular individual or a particular mission — but as for quality, Leatherman tools are as good as it gets, right out of the box. The tool selections are logical and useful, the materials the best available, and the execution flawless.

If Leatherman's tools are so good, you ask, why these new iterations? If for no other reason, then because of the ready market for anything Leatherman makes, predicated on the excellent service customers got from earlier tools. How, you ask, could they make it better?

To make the original better, at least for some purposes, one might either make it bigger and stronger, or smaller with different tools. Tim's bigger-and-stronger iteration is the Super Tool. Although I've hand-collapsed crummy oriental knock-offs of the Leatherman (doesn't matter *which* one — they're *all* crummy), I've yet to see a real Leatherman worked to death, so it would not occur to me to "improve" it, but they did.



The Super Tool is ½-inch longer (4½-inch closed) and slightly heavier than the PST, with 10 locking blades including a very good little saw, and both a serrated spear-point and a clip-point blade — plus all the usual suspects you find between the scales of a Leatherman, and they all lock. The extra heft is very well invested: It's a strong tool that inspires confidence, and *everything on it works, smoothly, right out of the box.*

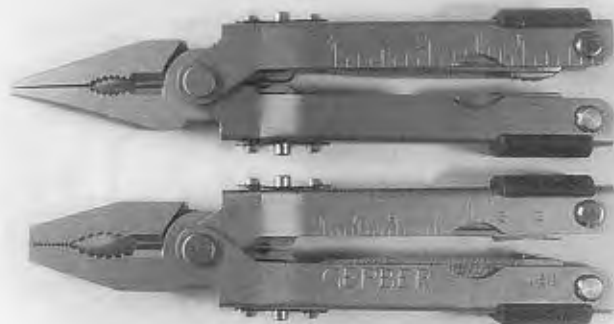
Leatherman's new smaller-with-different-tools model is the Micra, and it's the sort of tool that would sell well in Switzerland. This little jewel almost makes us want to trade our bib overalls for a three-piece suit and use the Micra as a watch fob. A mere 2½-inches closed, it features strong, spring-loaded scissors instead of pliers, and a tool assortment appealing to an EMT or gentlemen: tweezers, knives, bottle opener, square-bar screwdrivers, flat driver for Phillips screws and a nail file/cleaners. Everything works. It disappears in your hand. As a key ring, you'll never know it's in your pocket until you use it: and if it is, you will — that's the rationale and beauty of multi-purpose "pocket" tools.

Genetically driven tool freaks have always maintained a Band-Aid can of assorted ¼-inch hex-drive bits. A staggering variety is now available at your local tool bin: everything from square, spanner, Torx, socket head, Tri-Wing, Frearson, Torq-Set, Posidriv, clutch and all 8-point sockets in metric and inch. Even drills are available with a ¼-inch hex shank. Leatherman's new Tool Adapter lets you use any ¼-inch hex drive tool on any Leatherman but the Micra. The Tool Adapter is quick, strong, handy, and effective. It comes in a handy belt pouch, which you can fill with the tools you will use. Never leave home on a mechanical conveyance without this. And keep it handy at home!

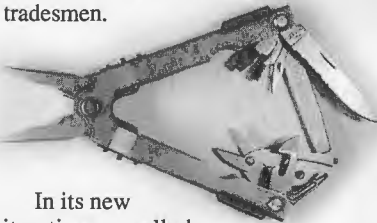
Leatherman, Dept. SOF, P.O. Box 20595, Portland, OR 97220; phone: 503-253-7826; fax: 503-253-7830.

Gerber Multi-Lock

Gerber, now a division of Fiskars, needs no introduction to SOF readers. They have been in the hard-use knife business for decades, and their name on a knife is assurance it is good to go. Gerber intro-

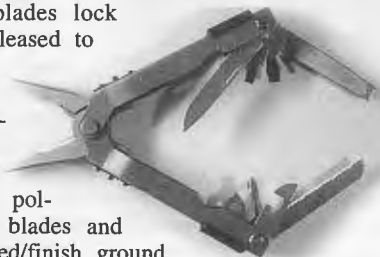


duced their first Multi-Plier® tool with flick-of-the-wrist opening a few years ago. Always a strong tool, it has evolved into one of the most widely used among tradesmen.



In its new iterations, called the Multi-Lock™, all blades lock open but are quickly released to close. The pliers (standard or needle-nose) come together with the precision of a watchmaker's tool. The whole implement is beautifully polished and glass-beaded: blades and screwdriver tips are honed/finish ground

Gerber's new Multi-Lock has found favor with tradesmen for its strength, flick-o'-the-wrist opening; comes in needlenose or blunt-nose. Latest version is Scout, featuring scissors and carbide hone.



after the polishing-beading process so they have the exact contour they should. The tool closes with handles parallel, but there is plenty of clearance and nothing gets pinched, as when cutting heavy wire or if the tool slips off the workpiece.

Multi-Locks feature the following tools, all of which lock: pliers (blunt or needle nose), large/medium/small square-bar screwdrivers, bottle opener, lanyard ring, drop-point blade, Phillips screwdriver (which accepts their adapter to use the spectrum of available ¼-inch hex-drive tools), serrated sheep's-foot blade, wire cutter, can opener, crimper and a fine/coarse file by Simonds.

The latest model of the Multi-Lock is called the Scout, similar to the others except for tool selection. The small square-bar screwdriver is exchanged for a very good awl/punch; the standard-cut side of the file now features a carbide sharpening surface; and the serrated sheep's foot has been exchanged for small but very capable scissors (after all — when Fiskars is the parent company, good scissors should be a given!).

Gerber, Dept. SOF, 14200 S.W. 72nd Ave., Portland, OR 97223; phone: 800-950-6161; fax: 503-684-7008.

Kershaw Multi-Tool

It's a pleasure to use a tool of any description that is obviously engineered and then built not to a cost-standard, but to be as good as it possibly can be. Such is Pete Kershaw's Multi-Tool. It is the only multi-tool on the market with locking needle-nose pliers — and one of the few iterations of the original Petersen Vise-Grip®



Pete Kershaw's multi is a serious tool, with usefulness enhanced by strong locking jaw. Spearpoint blade opens with handles closed; handle contains locking — and replaceable — drivers, cutters, openers. Kershaw's top-quality workmanship is better than most new guns.

design that do it justice.

Kershaw's incorporation of locking pliers into his tool makes it handy for all the usual multi-tool reasons, but having it lock and, therefore, function as another hand takes its utility to the next higher plateau.

Tools designed by bright men with skinned knuckles usually turn out to be the most thoughtfully designed, the most practical and therefore superior. Such, again, is the Kershaw. The most commonly used implements on a multi-tool are the pliers, and the knife. On Kershaw's offering, both are accessible one-handed, without opening it up, and both lock. Tension on the locking jaws is screw-adjustable in the manner of the original locking pliers. The pliers themselves have a longitudinal groove for gripping a fish-hook shank, a good set of wire cutters, and a radiused interior maw designed for gripping nuts and bolts.

Within the bottom handle are a fine/coarse file, a replaceable hacksaw blade, square-bar and Phillips screwdrivers, and can/bottle opener. There is a locking latch to hold the handles shut, which locks tools in place while being used. Individual replacement tools are available open-stock.

In short, a design without fault, and execution without blemish. *Kershaw Knives, Dept. SOF, 25300 S.W. Parkway Ave., Wilsonville, OR 97070; phone: 503-682-1966; fax: 503-682-7168.*

Coast™ Pro Pocket Mechanic™

One more Oregon knife company might make you think that all people do there is sit in the shop out of the rain and invent knives. Well, many do, but some import them: Coast Cutlery was selling practical knives to the Northwest's working men before many of Oregon's knife entrepreneurs were born.



Coast Cutlery's Pro Pocket Mechanic, a good handful of tool for the money, features LED for night work.

As many cutlery companies now do, Coast also imports selected multi-tools. Perhaps the flagship of their economy imports is their Pro Pocket Mechanic, assembled in Taiwan from components procured in Europe and Asia.

Of the non-folding persuasion with fixed pliers having various tool components arranged in one grip, the Pro

Pocket Mechanic features all-stainless components that include spring-loaded needle-nose pliers with wire cutters and a

radiused interior maw; in the outside grip under the plier handle is a small square-bar screwdriver.

In the other grip is a large, partly serrated spearpoint blade; a large square-bar screwdriver with a file on one side and an inch/metric scale on the other; a Phillips screwdriver, a medium square-bar screwdriver with combo can/bottle opener and a wire-stripper notch; and a pair of Swiss-made scissors, small but tight and functional. A lanyard loop also holds the plier handle closed. The black Zytel™ grips contain a bright red LED at the business end of the folding tools, which will light your work but not destroy your night vision. Only the scissors are "Swiss-made," but the Pro Pocket Mechanic is economical, serviceable gear representing good value for the money.

Coast Cutlery, Dept. SOF, 2045 S.E. Ankeny St., Portland, OR 97214; phone: 503-234-4545; fax: 503-234-4422.

Aitor Al-Ligator

Of all the folding multi-tools we've reviewed, first-place for unique design and pick-me-up appeal goes to the Al-Ligator.

Leave this strong, practical and attractive tool on your desk and even the charwoman will have to pick it up and see how it works. And it works well, even one-handed.

Looking not unlike an ordinary, full-sized pocket knife, the Al-Ligator features a discrete lever that is rotated by thumb or against your leg to deploy a fully functional and normally sized set of pliers. The sharply but comfortably diamond-textured grip

The Al-Ligator: cleverly hidden between the grip scales of Aitor's top-quality folding knife is a full-size pair of pliers, plus drivers and cutters.



scales make plier deployment a fluid and safe operation — important when one hand is busy holding the work you hope to accomplish.

The Al-Ligator's pliers are among the few that are handily spring-loaded to facilitate repetitive tasks like pulling a bazillion porcupine quills from your pup's nose. The Al-Ligator also features a large spearpoint blade, can and bottle openers, square-bar screwdriver, wire stripper and cutter, awl/punch and choice of corkscrew (295.172) or #2 Phillips screwdriver (295.272). Not only is the design totally unique and functional, the materials and workmanship are without fault.

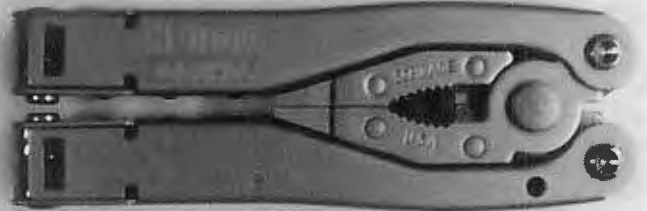
Aitor is one of the best-kept secrets in the knife trade, and we've found their products to represent excellent value for the money. The designs are good, many being Spanish military issue: Their bolo-style machete, for instance, is one of the best ever made in both materials and workmanship.

Aitor knives, plus other unique lines of quality cutlery, air guns and camping supplies, are imported by Catoctin Cutlery — a very together company to deal with whether you are a merchant or hands-on consumer.

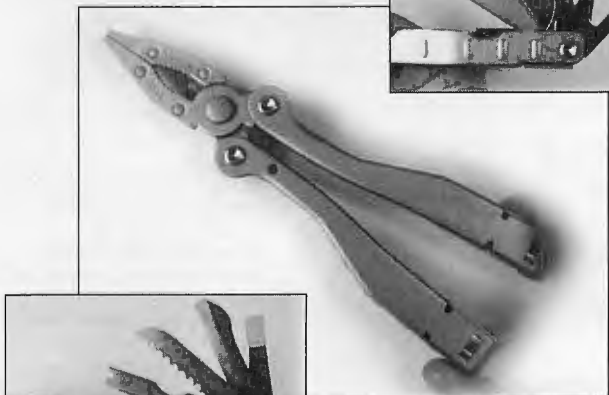
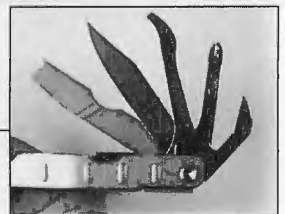
Catoctin Cutlery, Dept. SOF, 17 South Main St., P.O. Box 188, Smithsburg, MD 31783; phone: 301-824-7416; fax: 301-824-6138.

Schrade Tough Tool

We have yet to find an American-made multi-tool with a strength problem, even when used abusively. Knifemaker Schrade, however, has addressed this potential problem with their Tough Tool: If strength among folders were ever a problem, it is no longer. The pliers head itself is intelligently engineered from layers, permitting the inside cutters to be of very hard steel and the outside cheeks to be



The ergonomic handles of Schrade's new Tough Tool contain one of the largest tool assortments, which lock and unlock handily.



of very tough steel — same concept as a Pukka blade except the Tough Tool is laminated with hard rivets instead of forging. The Tough Tool is all stainless steel, incidentally, are all the tools reviewed for this article.

Each iteration of the multi-tool from a major knife maker (Schrade has been at it for almost a century now) brings with it a fresh perspective, and in turn a new feature or way of accomplishing its tasks that will make it particularly appealing to a specific segment of the market considering its end-use, esthetic appeal etc. The

Schrade is a top-quality tool, designed with particular attention to esthetics and ergonomics. No, we didn't call it a yuppie tool — we said it is good-looking and comfortable, and this is important whether selecting widgets or wives, tools or knives.

When using the pliers, for instance, the part of the handles that your hand grips is the comfortable *side* of the case, because the Schrade's tools fold out from the side that faces away from the palm; the additional advantage here is that the individual tools can be accessed whether the tool is open or closed. Appropriate tools have a positive lock-open feature, readily disengaged to stow them again. The handle cases and pliers are glass-beaded; tools and blades are appropriately finished and polished. To use the pliers, the tool opens in the more common "here's the church and here's the steeple, look in side and see all the people" fashion, and is easily opened one-handed.

Featured tools include pliers, radiused interior maw (aka "vise"), wire cutter, cap lifter, can opener, Phillips plus small/large square-bar screw drivers, scribe, awl, leather bore, scalloped sheep's foot blade, part-serrated clip point blade, scraper blade, metal/wood files, metric/inch scale, hook disgorging, wire stripper, lanyard ring.

Cleverly designed, well made: good gear.

Imperial Schrade, Dept. SOF, 7 Schrade Court, P.O. Box 700, Ellenville, NY 12428; phone: 914-647-7601; fax: 914-647-8701.

Buck Knives

There is a market for Rollex and a market for Timex, and between their Bucktool® and Bucklite® tool offerings Buck Knives



Quality, comfortable gear, the Bucktool features the best selection available of square-bar and Phillips screwdrivers, plus convenient side-folding handles. With a somewhat different selection in a more economical envelope, the Bucklite tool is slightly more compact.

will serve both market segments. As expected from Buck, both tools are functionally designed and well-made from top quality materials. The pliers' head is exposed by side-folding the handles, which allows the individual tools and blades to be accessed from the "inside" of the handles. This leaves the grip a comfortable three-sided case: Ergonomics are further enhanced on the Bucktool by a palm swell shaped into the handle, and on the Bucklite tool by gentle bumps pressed into the palm-side of the handle.

On the Bucktool, all individual implements are positively locked when open, and readily unlocked to fold away. These tools include: needlenose pliers with radiused and serrated interior maw, wire cutter, partly serrated drop-point blade, fully serrated sheepfoot blade, can/bottle opener, small/medium/large square-bar screwdrivers, #1 and #2 Phillips screwdrivers. Due to how these tools fold, screwdriver blades may be used with the other handle at 90-degrees to increase applied torque.

The Bucklite is a similar implement, but has a more austere demeanor, straight grips and a slightly different tool selection. The Bucklite offers: needlenose pliers with radiused maw and wire cutter, inch/metric scale, small/medium/large square-bar screwdrivers, Phillips screwdriver, partly serrated drop point blade, coarse/fine file, awl, lanyard ring.

On both tools, tool selection is enhanced by icons on each grip, illustrating which tools are within. Because of this, and the ergonomics and comfortable springiness engineered into the handles, either tool would be a good candidate to give to a gal or person with smallish hands.

Buck Knives, Dept. SOF, 1900 Weld Blvd., P.O. Box 1267, El Cajon, CA 92020; phone: 800-326-2825; fax: 800-729-2825.

A.G. Russell Pocket Toolbox

This multi-tool from premier knifemaker A.G. Russell is an update of the earliest design for a pliers/knife multi-tool we've yet found. Russell remade the tooling for this circa-WWI German patent, and is having them made by the knifemaker guilds in Seki, Japan. A.G. calls it a "Pocket Toolbox" and *pocket* is the operative word, as this little dandy is the most comfortably pocketable pliers tool reviewed here.

Russell replaced the leather punch with a Phillips screwdriver, and added a serrated blade to the shank of the square-bar screwdriver. With the fast-cut file on the same flat shank, the just-right drop-point knife, and the pliers with wire cutter and radiused interior gripper, the Pocket Toolbox features the



Continued on page 87

Long-known for his superior knives, A.G. Russell has updated a WWI-era German patent for this compact, pocket-friendly design containing the most-used tools.



S.P.I.K.E.



TACTICAL GEAR

SINGLE RIFLE CASE

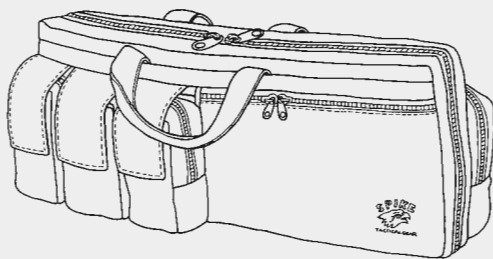
#4637 Large 44" \$75.00

#4235 Medium 42" \$65.00

#3332 Small 33" \$55.00

Color Available: Black

This single rifle case has all the same equipment and features as our popular Double Rifle Cases. Should your weapon require a longer case, please call for quotes.



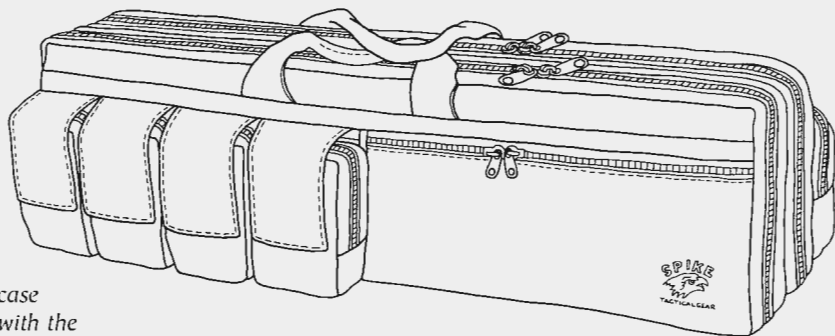
DOUBLE RIFLE CASE

#4464 Large 44" \$149.95

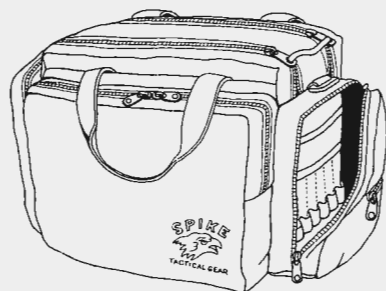
#3850 Small 38" \$125.95

Color Available: Black

Our double rifle case is like having two cases in one. Constructed of 1000D cordura nylon with 3/8" EVA closed-cell foam padding. This case provides two separate zippered compartments with the added security of padded interior protection. An adjustable inner sleeve allows your weapon to ride suspended inside the bag. Exterior small cargo pockets have additional magazine placement behind and are secured with hook and loop flap closures. The alternate side has a large cargo pocket with additional magazine pouches. A #10 full exterior zipper closure with double web handles, helps to carry the load. Interior configuration displays loop and snap system for compatible pouches which may be detached from your belt or vest and left with your weapon. Everything in its place and together—one bag one system.



Special Products for Individuals



SMALL TACTICAL BAG

#1461347 \$85.00

14"W x 7"H x 13"D

Color Available: Black

Fully padded sides and bottom, a double-zippered top opening allows complete accessibility to the large interior area which has two interior pockets. Large front cargo pocket, a flat exterior on the opposite side with two end cargo pockets, one has elastic loops and pen/pencil compartments. Made of 1000D cordura nylon with 3/8" closed-cell foam.

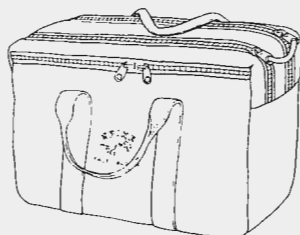
WEEKENDER

#141995 \$29.95

14"W x 10"H x 3"D

Color Available: Black

This small padded briefcase, constructed of 1000D cordura nylon with 3/8" EVA closed-cell foam, has a large exterior zippered pocket on one side and two zippered pockets on the opposite side. Interior displays four small pouches for your cell phone, pager or even extra magazines. There is also a large 3/4 pocket sleeve for your records. Both the large exterior pocket and the large interior pouch serve as carriers for padded weapon pouch—sold separately.



RANGE BAG

#168926 \$14.95

16"W x 10"H x 8"D

Colors Available: Black, Burgundy, Dark Teal, Gray, Light Teal

Constructed of 1000D cordura, this range bag has a solid-core base with 16 interior magazine slots and double-zippered top opening. Dual web handles encircle bottom to top with two flat zippered pockets on the outside, each containing a padded weapon protector.

SPIKE MODULAR TACTICAL VEST

#78670 \$149.95

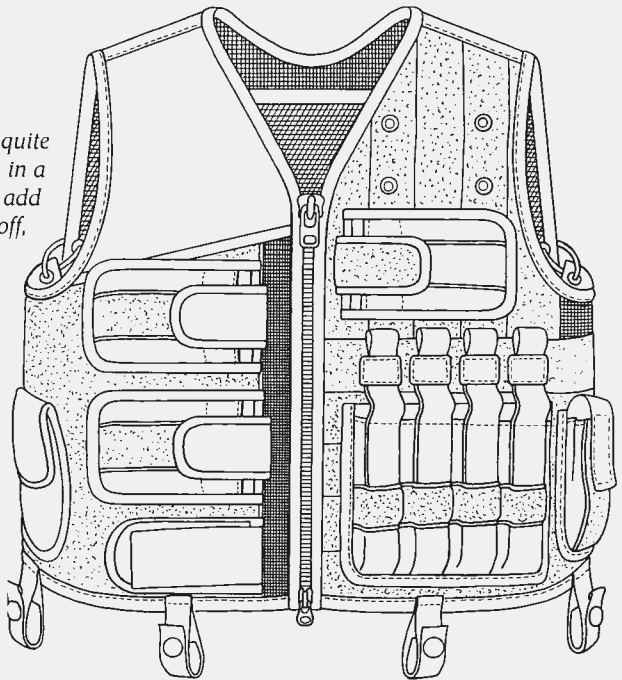
Medium (M), Large (L), Extra Large (XL)

Color Available: Black

At SPIKE we know what it's like to purchase a tactical vest that's not quite right—pouches are too high, too low, too whatever. We feel our design in a tactical vest gives you the edge you want and need. It's modular. You add the pouches where you want them. Set them at an angle, take some off, change from rifle, shotgun or pistol pouches or use all three.

If you are a competitive shooter or a member of a special operations team, you can set up this vest for a particular stage or event—then switch pouches for the next one. YOU decide how, where and what.

Our tactical vest has a double-mesh body with removable pouches, nonslip padded front and shoulders, camelback compatible and has belt loops for attachment to a duty belt. Vest is priced with 8 pouches selected from the list below. Available for the right- and left-handed shooter. Back length is 17 1/2" on the regular vest and 19 1/2" on the tall. This allows attachment to the belt at your waist, not 2-3 inches below it.



POUCH SELECTIONS

- Shotgun loops (10 per pad)
- *Handgun mag. pouch (4 mags.)
- *Handgun mag. pouch (2 mags.)
- Knife pouch (6 or 8 inches long)
- Handcuff case
- M16/AR-15 mag. pouch (1 mag. per pouch)
- MP-5 mag. pouch (2 mags. per pouch)
- M14/M1A mag. pouch (1 mag. per pouch)
- Miscellaneous pouch
- Map case
- Flashlight pouch
- *Specify single or double stack

OTHER OPTIONS

- Radio pouch
- Chemical agent mask
- Flashbang (2 per pouch)
- Flex cuff pouch
- Handgun pouch for attachment to vest (specify when ordering)

in Key Events

TO ORDER:

By Phone or Fax (307) 344-7986

SPIKE TACTICAL GEAR

P.O. Box 552 • Gardiner, MT 59030

QUANTITY	ITEM #	SIZE	COLOR	DESCRIPTION	PRICE	TOTAL

Method of Payment: VISA MASTERCARD

Account: (Please include all the numbers on your credit card)

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Expiration Date:

Month	Year		

Name on Card _____ Signature _____

SHIP TO: Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

SPIKE started as a pro law enforcement company in support of tactical officers with special equipment needs and to provide a means of getting that equipment to an event. Knowing first-hand, there's nothing worse than training hard, getting the best equipment you can afford and finding at the scene, you did not bring something with you. At SPIKE, we design Gear Bags, Rifle Cases, Tactical Vests, Ghillie Suits, and Clothing. We carry only time- and event-tested equipment. Our small, but proven, selection of products includes SPIKE Tactical Gear, Cold Steel Knives and Leupold Optics.

WHEN YOU ABSOLUTELY HAVE TO TAKE IT WITH YOU, consider SPIKE.

S.P.I.K.E.



TACTICAL GEAR



Starlight Systems is your one stop shopping center for the latest Night Vision, Personal Protection & Surveillance products at the lowest prices in the industry!

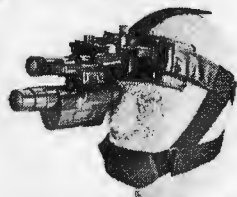
"Smart Technology"

Complete line of Night Vision:

Modular System



**Goggles
Binoculars
Rifle Scopes
Spotting Scopes**



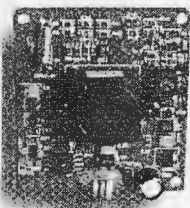
Starts at \$349!

Comprehensive line of Spy Gear:

Covert Camera
hidden in desk clock

**Audio & Video
Countermeasures
Covert Video Surveillance
Personal Protection**

**Micro Video
Camera**
with pin-hole lens
1-1/2"x1-1/2"x1-3/4"



Surveillance Systems

Only \$299!

90 So. Spruce Ave., Ste. F
So. San Francisco, CA 94080

Start at \$99!

For FREE catalog call:

1-800-STAR-099

(800) 782-7099

(415) 588-3075

Fax (415) 588-3062

SOMETHING WICKED THIS WAY COMETH

SUPERIOR KNIFE DESIGNS FOR THE PROFESSIONAL--MILITARY, LAW ENFORCEMENT, SPORTSMEN

Model 117-2 Combat Blade

- 7" x 1 1/4" x .214" Blade
- Black Oxide Finish
- "LBE" Compatible KYDEX[®] Sheath
- 59-60 RC Hardened Edge,
Soft Spine
- 1095 High Carbon Tool Steel
- Black Electrical Grade Linen
Micarta Handles

KYDEX Sheaths for the APPLIGATE-
FAIRBAIRN[®] Combat Folder &
NORTH AMERICAN ARMS[®],
Mini-Revolvers. **Choice \$20.00**

"WOO"[™] Neck Knife 7-3/16" of .125"
1095 High Carbon Tool Steel.
KYDEX Sheath included **\$25.00**



**Airborne Ranger
With a Model 117-2
Combat Blade
\$150.00**

Visa & Master Card Accepted
Catalog of products \$2.00

Deliveries 2-4 weeks, shipping & handling Approx. \$5.00
"FORCE XXI COMBAT KNIVES--WE CUT PLUM TO THE BONE"

WKC, INC. SILOAM SPRINGS, AR.
501-549-3356 or FAX 501-549-3357

Jiang's Jihad

Continued from page 55

outsiders including the U.S. In August 1989, China's then-minister for public security Wang Feng went on record as saying: "The root cause of instability in Xinjiang lies in the attempt by the United States and other countries to split and subvert our country." And in 1997, in an apparent effort to rally round the flag, the Chinese press has hinted at CIA involvement.

But blaming foreigners can't disguise the fact that in Xinjiang there's more than enough local anger to account for Beijing's problems. It seems likely that various local Uighur groups are at work, some of which may be grouped under a broad umbrella resistance organization, *pidai*, a local variant of the Arabic term *fedayai*, or sacrificer.

Beijing's counter-attack has meanwhile been gathering momentum. Since 1991, the authorities have been trying to slam the breaks on religion without being seen to be actively suppressing Islam, which could have unpleasant diplomatic repercussions in the Mideast. Confining religion has involved a string of measures including the closing down of hundreds of unregistered mosques, forbidding the use of loud speakers outside registered zones and banning Koranic classes for children and youths.

In an effort to ensure Uighur separatists find no help in any of the states around Xinjiang's extensive borders, Beijing has been busy on the diplomatic front. High-level visits by China's President Jiang Zemin, Prime Minister Li Peng and Defense Minister Chi Haotian to Pakistan, Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan since 1994 have gone a long way to persuade China's neighbors it's not a good idea to give sanctuary to Uighur dissidents. In May 1997, for example, the Pakistani authorities gave in to heavy Chinese pressure and handed back 12 young Uighurs who had fled Xinjiang across the Karakorum mountains in mid-winter. Several were said to have been executed after their return. Kazakhstan, meanwhile, has been tightening restrictions on Uighur organizations based on its territory.

But even with the assistance of neighboring governments there's only so much the Chinese can do. In Kazakhstan there's a 250,000-strong Uighur minority, many of whom fled from Chinese communism in the 1960s and today are sympathetic to the plight of their cousins still across the border. In Kyrgyzstan there are some 50,000 more Uighurs. In Pakistan, whatever the government policy may be, there is no shortage of hard-line Islamic radicals more than happy to welcome persecuted co-religionists. And in Afghanistan, where more than a few Uighurs trained and fought in the early 1990s, pretty much anything goes.

Inside Xinjiang, the sharp end of Beijing policy has seen a marked tightening of the internal security apparatus. This comprises the Peoples' Armed Police at the front-line

Professional Locksmithing Tools

LOCKAID

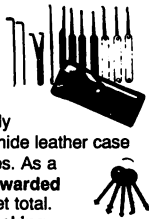
Specifically designed to pick tumbler locks. Designed over thirty years ago to aid law enforcement agencies. Consists of tension wrench, three needles and Lockaid "Gun." Prices include a copy of the book "Lockpicking Simplified."

Lockaid \$69.95



PIX MODEL 13

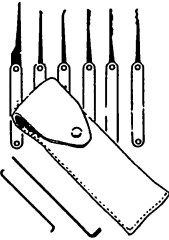
This deluxe yet compact kit features 11 of the most commonly used tools. Comes in a slim cowhide leather case for discreet undercover operatives. As a special bonus, a 5-piece set of warded picks is included. A 16-piece set total. Also included, a copy of "Lockpicking Simplified." Receive all this at a low price of Pix 13 \$42.95



PXP 8

- Shirt Pocket Size.
- Top Grain Cowhide Leather.
- Has 8 Picks, Tension Wrenches and Broken Key Extractor.
- All Picks with Metal Handles.
- Copy of Lockpicking Simplified.

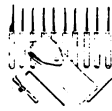
PXP 8 \$24.95



PXP 10

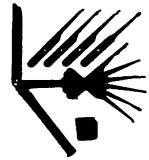
- Shirt Pocket Size.
- Top Grain Cowhide Leather.
- Has 13 Picks, Tension Wrenches and Broken Key Extractor.
- All Picks with Metal Handles.
- Copy of Lockpicking Simplified.

PXP 10 \$34.95



PIX-EZ All-In-One Pick-Set

100% American Made! As convenient to carry and use as a pocket knife! Only 4 inches long, half inch square, weighs under five ounces, works fast and opens pin and waster tumbler locks quickly, with very little effort. Six tempered spring steel picks, tension wrench. \$34.95



WKS PICKS

Made of the finest blue tempered spring steel, this 5-piece padlock pick-set is a must in every locksmith's tool box. This set will pick open most every warded padlock made today. \$9.95



MONTHLY SPECIAL

RECEIVE A COMBINATION SET

INCLUDES — 5 ITEMS

1-MD-16 DELUXE SET	\$59.95
1-SCHALGE WAFER SET	\$29.95
1-SESAMEE DECODER	\$17.95
1-WKS PICKS	\$ 9.95
1-DOUBLE SIDED TUMBLER PICKS	\$29.95
A VALUE OF \$147.75	

AT A LOW PRICE OF \$89.95

Lockpicking Simplified	\$8.50
Complete Guide to Lockpicking	\$15.00
Improvised Lock Picks	\$9.95
Tubular Locks	\$8.95
Lockout and forced entry	\$11.95
Involuntary Repression	\$10.95

BOOKS

Safe & Vault manipulation	\$9.95
How to Pick Pins & Wafers	\$9.95
Combination Locks	\$8.00
Keys by Impressioning	\$8.00
Key Casting Manual	\$8.95
Locks, Picks, Clicks	\$10.00



ESP-13

This handy new pick set is the most popular set among professional locksmiths today. This kit consists of 12 different tools housed in a handsome black leather case designed for a shirt pocket. Included in the price, you receive a 5-piece warded key set and a copy of "Lockpicking Simplified." 17-piece set total.

ESP-13 \$45.95

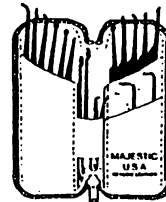


SESAMEE DECODER

This tool was designed to decode the exact combination of a sesame padlock without damaging the lock. Detailed instruction included.



\$17.95

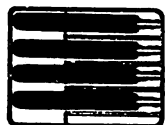
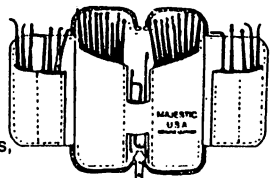


MD16

Shirt Pocket Size, Top Grain Cowhide Leather, Zippered Case, has 16 Picks, Tension Wrenches and Broken Key Extractor. \$59.95

MD32

Hip Pocket Size, Top Grain Cowhide Leather, Zippered Case, has 32 picks, Tension Wrenches, Broken Key Extractor. \$69.95

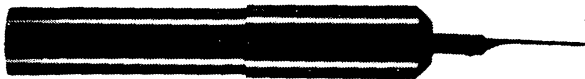


DOUBLE SIDED DISK TUMBLER PICKS

Set of 4 picks designed to be used on the most popular double-sided disc tumbler, showcase, cam and padlocks.

\$29.95

Electric Picks



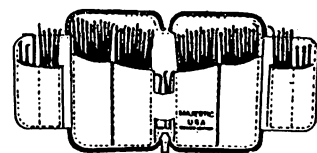
The best single tool for most pin tumbler locks • Opens many locks in seconds
High quality aluminum construction • Used by locksmiths worldwide.

E100C (3 volt) \$ 99.95

SCHLAGE WAFER

The most fantastic tool you will ever use. This set consists of two base keys and pick. Complete instructions included.

\$29.95



MD60

Top Grain Cowhide Leather, Zippered Case, has 60 picks, Tension Wrenches, Broken Key Extractor and Warded Master Keys. \$109.95

Catalog \$3.00 — Free with order.
Allow three weeks delivery
on Personal Check Orders.
Money orders ship same day
received.

NEW! All major credit cards
accepted.



P.O. Box 68, Dept. SF3, Dexter, OR 97431; (541)726-6360

Web Address: www.gun-room.com • E-Mail: gunroom@pacwest.net

The law requires all
purchases be
made in good faith,
without make
believe or fraud by
genuine persons
within this industry

Send to
**Steve Arnold's
Gun Room**

Postage & handling
\$6.00

Overseas postage add
30% of total.

Must be 18 years
of age

The Level Of **INTENSITY**
On The **BATTLEFIELD**
Depends On Your
PERSPECTIVE

Get a new perspective on the world of small arms with **SMALL ARMS WORLD REPORT**

—the journal from the **INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH ON SMALL ARMS IN INTERNATIONAL SECURITY**

Write for more information or send US \$5 (refundable with membership) for sample copy of **SMALL ARMS WORLD REPORT** to:

IRSAIS

6320 Olde Towne Ct., Dept. A
Alexandria, VA 22307
(703) 765-9771
FAX: (703) 765-9773

IRSAIS accepts American Express

of riot situations; a well-equipped local militia force from the Bingtuan also trained for riot and counter-insurgency situations; and 12 divisions of regular army including combat-ready quick-reaction "Fist" units. Over and above that, there exists a pervasive intelligence network run by the Public Security Bureau, and by the Ministry of State Security. The result is a remarkably low-key but far-reaching network capable, when necessary, of rapid and decisive applications of force. It's left no independent analysts in any doubt that strategies of insurgency based on Afghan, Tajikistani, or Kashmiri models are simply non-starters.

Against this background, Beijing cracked down ruthlessly in 1996 and 1997. A nation-wide anti-crime blitz dubbed Yanda ("Strike Hard") was targeted in Xinjiang squarely on the separatist underground. In cities and villages across the region thousands were rounded up and pulled in for interrogation. Security forces announced that between March and May they had seized 11 tons of illegal explosives, over 100,000 detonators and 638 firearms; and closed 83 illicit outlets for black-market weaponry. Before long the pressure was apparently driving some youths to head for the hills, with guns if they could find them.

One of those picked up was Khalid, a student in his early twenties, I met in the regional capital of Urumchi. A world away from mainly Uighur Kashgar in the south, Urumchi is a booming city of new high-rises which is already 85% Chinese and where Uighurs seem mostly to get by as kebab-vendors, money-changers and street touts.

Khalid is a student there and was arrested one day while on a visit to Beijing. An unmarked car pulled up beside him, a couple of plainclothesmen confirmed his name and then wrestled him into the vehicle where he was blindfolded. He was driven to an interrogation center for a two-months' ration of beatings and Q&A. His crime: He discussed the idea of an independent "East Turkestan" with a group of student friends.

For the moment, it appears that Beijing has the men and hardware to hold the lid on Xinjiang, while more Hans settlers continue to trickle in to "add sand." But the arrests, labor camps and executions are creating wrath. Many of Xinjiang's Uighur young are frustrated, angry, and ready to fight back.

The best-case scenario for Beijing is a variant of Northern Ireland — a nagging, low-level campaign of terrorism enjoying a degree of popular support, but remaining containable.

Worst-case is what Torghun and his comrades are aiming for, and what Beijing would prefer not to contemplate: a slide into spreading ethnic polarization, stepped-up conflict and the need to hold down a region bigger than many countries with a massive, and open-ended, commitment of force.

Photojournalist Mike Winchester is a seasoned Asia hand, having contributed many articles to SOF during the past decade.

C.D.S.S. Inc.

**50 Caliber Ball, API, APIT or Tracer Ammo
Non-Corrosive, Boxer Primed, Late Date
100/\$165, 150/\$199, 1000/\$1250**

223, .30-06, 7.62x54R Tracer Ammo — 100/\$39

.30-06, 7.62x39, 7.62x54R, 303 BR. Frangible Ammo — 100/\$59

7.654R, 303 BR. or 30-06 API Ammo — 100/\$150

Inert Rifle Grenades— 10 for \$49, .30-06 Blanks — 100/\$10

SKS Launcher \$69, Blanks 100/\$20, Garand Launcher \$29

12 Ga. Flechette Ammo — 10 for \$20

30mm Vulcan Dummy Round \$15 ea., 40mm - 4 in. Clip \$50

Inert LAW Rockets \$89 ea.

2.75" Inert Rocket Motors \$50 ea.

Write for A Complete List to:

C.D.S.S. Inc.

N. 1511 FISKE, SPOKANE, WA 99207

(509) 535-9486

E-MAIL: CDSS@SPOKANE.NET

Acronym Turf Wars

Continued from page 65

"Operation Tango," a half-way-successful snatch-and-grab mission intended to arrest Bosnian Serbs Milan Kovacevic and Simo Drjlaca. Both men were secretly indicted by the International War Crimes Tribunal for crimes committed at the notorious Omarska prison camp in Bosnia.

Drjlaca, unfortunately, never made it to Holland to stand trial. As American-flown Black Hawk helicopters lowered SAS commandos to the ground, Drjlaca opened fire and, after wounding one SAS soldier, was cut down in a hail of gunfire. Kovacevic was arrested without any problems at his office 25 kilometers away in Prijedor, Bosnia, by a second team that immediately spirited him to an awaiting jail cell in the Hague.

While Operation Tango proved that the CIA can work with NATO and provide useful intelligence, it has been the CIA's less-than-stellar surveillance of Karadzic and Mladic that has made it the butt of quite a few jokes lately.

"I wasn't there, but from what I've heard a CIA surveillance team, the same team that's been tailing Karadzic in Pale (the Bosnian Serb capital) literally had a few close encounters of the first kind," Jerry recounted to *SOF* over a few beers at a bar along the Hungarian/ Croatian border. "You know, Pale isn't but so big and it's near impossible for someone not to bump into someone if they're supposed to be following them around."

"The word is that the Karadzic security goons doubled their convoy back on a road and came face to face with our team," Jerry explained. "There were words and some tense moments but no one was hurt."

The only casualty that afternoon, according to Jerry, was the Agency's reputation.

"These guys are supposed to be top-notch field operatives," Jerry went on, "but if they can't keep their presence a secret how can they snatch this guy?"

Multifaceted Crime

While many Agency supporters claim that money given the FBI to fight crime abroad is better spent at home to root out domestic terrorists and fight domestic crime, there's only one problem with that argument according to the FBI's Kaciban.

"Today's criminal isn't tied to one state or one country. He doesn't respect borders or international law," said Kaciban, "therefore, in order to fight crime on a global level, we need a global presence. That's the new role of the FBI. We are for the first time effectively fighting domestic crime by preventing it from first reaching us."

Chief Foreign Correspondent Mark H. Milstein has reported on armed conflicts from the former Yugoslavia, Chechnya, Lebanon and Iraq. He is based in Hungary. ✕

Become a private investigator!

Accredited, home study career training course. Earn excellent pay and enjoy daily excitement in a great field!

Learn the secrets of working undercover, observing and surveilling, tracing missing people, interviewing witnesses, gaining confessions, and using special databases.

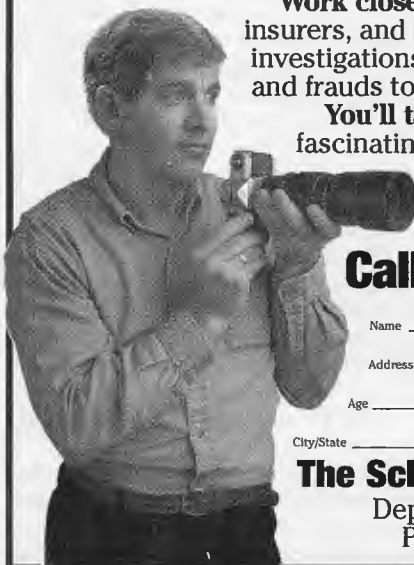


Work closely with police, attorneys, insurers, and families. Help solve crimes, lead investigations, find missing persons, bring cheats and frauds to justice, and do background checks.

You'll tackle exciting assignments and meet fascinating people—and perhaps start your own private investigation agency.

For free career literature, send or call 24 hours a day. ☎

Call now: 800-223-4542



Name _____

Address _____

Age _____ Phone (____) _____

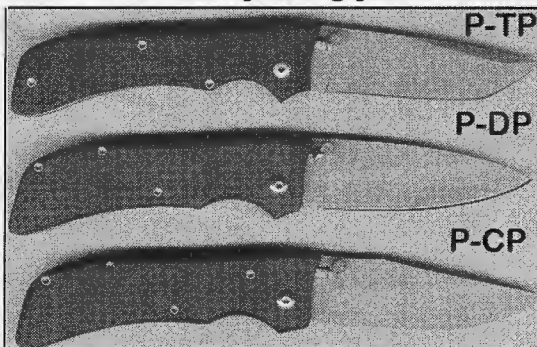
City/State _____ Zip _____

The School of Private Investigation

Dept. JRC171, 6065 Roswell Road
PCDI, Atlanta, Georgia 30328

"There Can Be Only One"

Strongest is an absolute term in defining strong Lock strength in a folding knife is our number one concern and, it should be your first consideration in choosing a folding knife. After all the only thing you have to lose is your fingers!



The Pioneer Series
Rolling Lock Strong™
Three Blade Styles

Specifications

Blade Steel ATS-34
Blade Length 3.20
Handle Length 4.05
Over All Length 7.25
Liners Stainless Steel
Scales Black G-10

\$129.95

Shipping \$5.00

R.E.K.A.T Exclusive Rolling Lock™ The **STRONGEST** one handed folding, blade lock knife in the World (U.S. Patent 5,685,079)



SPECIFICATIONS
Blade Steel ATS-34 RC59-60
Blade length 3 15/16th
Handle Length 4 15/16th
Over All Length 8 7/8th
Liners Stainless Steel
Scales Black G-10

Pocket Hobbit with Breakfront Kydex Sheath
\$179.95 \$5.00 Shipping

Complete Product Catalog
and 19X26 Poster \$5.00

Visit our web site [http:// www.roundeye.com](http://www.roundeye.com)

Round Eye Knife and Tool Company
American Innovation and Craftsmanship

P.O. Box 818 Sagle, Idaho 83860 (208)265-8858
FAX (208) 263-0848 Email : roundeye@nidlink.com
Credit Card Orders (888) 801-8858 Visa and Mastercard

Dealer Inquiries
Write or Fax

Vicious French Cycle

Iraq engaged the European companies in lengthy negotiations which would soon take a familiar pattern. Each time Iraq would say it needed only a little more data to make a decision. The French would reveal more. The cycle would begin again and this went on for several years. Finally, after the French had revealed just about all the technology involved with the process, Baghdad announced it was too expensive and was abandoning all interest in pursuing it. Iraq was then able to begin the clandestine development of Chemex.

David Albright stresses that in the evaluation of enrichment technologies, the Iraqis saw many advantages in EMIS technology, the first that this procedure involves large and static pieces of equipment. This was regarded by Baghdad as preferable to gas centrifuge programs which required advanced engineering technology, ill-suited to a developing country with a limited industrial base. The rotors on gas centrifuges move at seven or eight times the speed of sound. The slightest instability can cause bearings to fail and rotors to crash in an instant. Pakistan has been battling with the problem for years.

It is instructive that Iran appears to be

heading the same way, though, like Iraq, Tehran keeps its options open with regard to gas centrifuge technology, laser as well as chemical separation. British Intelligence sources maintain that right now there are more than 20 countries — all of them Third World — intent on acquiring this kind of expertise.

In Iraq, meanwhile, atomic bomb design was the responsibility of the scientists and technicians at Al Atheer, which the minister said when he opened the plant about 50 kilometers south of the capital, was to be "like Los Alamos."

By the time David Kay and his IAEA Action Team associates visited the site — which was bombed by the Allies during the war — the Iraqis had obtained a variety of advanced equipment, much of it on Western export control (and thus embargoed) lists. It included such items as high-speed streak cameras (from Hamamatsu Photonics of Japan) and maraging steel from European suppliers which was found elsewhere in Iraq.

Al Atheer was also involved in sophisticated work in metallurgy, chemistry and detonation engineering. Here, the Swiss company Asea Brown Boveri provided a state-of-the-art, cold isostatic press which could be used to shape explosive charges.

More Swiss firms which supplied equipment to Iraq included Acomel SA of Neuchatel (five high frequency inverters suitable for centrifuge cascades) and, among other shipments, 700 uranium hexafluoride-resistant bellows-valves from Balzer AG and VAT AG (together with the

American company Nupro).

Europe Helps Saddam

There is little doubt that in pursuing its objective to acquire an atom bomb Saddam received much foreign aid, the bulk of it, curiously, from free Europe.

David Albright and Mark Hibbs stated in their article that Iraq's "Petrochemical Project Three" — the codename for the secret program (conducted under the auspices of the Ministry of Industry and Military Industrialization) — received massive infusions of money and resources. Like America's redundant Manhattan project, Iraq sought a number of different technical avenues to the bomb.

The Iraqi leader sent out a minor army of agents to establish a most elaborate procurement network that had operatives throughout the developed world. Even Africa was covered; South Africa (through Armscor) had much potential. By then the Apartheid regime had supplied Iraq with the vaunted G-5 gun, a 155 mm artillery piece which, until silenced, was used to good effect against Coalition Forces in Desert Storm.

The entire Program was subject to the most stringent secrecy. There wasn't an Iraqi delegation abroad that was not involved. Ostensibly, everything that was acquired was intended for civil or peaceful use. As Albright explains, purchases were hidden behind such innocuous pursuits as dairy production, car and truck manufacture as well as oil refining. But it did not take the

Benchmade® Engineered



MODEL 830S WITH BLACK POCKET CLIP

IF YOU WANT PROOF THAT THE NEW BENCHMADE 830S IS THE STRONGEST, SHARPEST LIGHTWEIGHT FOLDING KNIFE AVAILABLE ANYWHERE JUST COMPARE IT'S FEATURES TO ANY OTHER KNIFE ON THE MARKET. THEN VISIT YOUR DEALER AND SEE FOR YOURSELF.

DEMAND THE BEST! DEMAND BENCHMADE!



MODEL 830 WITH BLACK POCKET CLIP

MODEL 830 MADE IN THE U.S.A. BY BENCHMADE KNIFE COMPANY UNDER LICENSING AGREEMENT WITH SPYDERCO® INC.

BENCHMADE

FOR THE 1997 BENCHMADE CATALOG SEND \$2.00 TO:
BENCHMADE KNIFE COMPANY INC.

300 BEAVERCREEK ROAD

DEPT. SF

OREGON CITY, OREGON 97045 U.S.A.

VOICE: (503) - 655 - 6004

FAX: (503) - 655 - 6223

URL: <http://www.benchmade.com>

E-MAIL: info@benchmade.com

MADE IN
USA
FOR THE WORLD

major powers long to click: Iraq was involved in something that was different and, more disconcerting, it was happening on a breathtaking scale.

Much of the finance was handled by the scandal-ridden Bank of Credit and Commerce International before it folded. Subsequently, the Atlanta-based branch of an Italian bank, *Banco Nazionale da Lavoro* (BNL) was placed under investigation in the United States.

There were British companies involved too, some of which are still under a cloud. These included Endshire Export Marketing which met an order for ring magnets which had come from Inwako GmbH, a firm directed by the German arms dealer Simon Heiner. British Intelligence, aware by now that the magnets were for a nuclear program, let the shipment proceed in order to try to establish what technical route the Iraqis were taking. SIS works closely with Washington on such matters.

There were some serious gaps. Iraqi electronics expertise, for instance, did not warrant close scrutiny. Baghdad, it was discovered later, was having difficulty developing adequate capacitors and bridge wire detonators. Rolf Ekeus, departing head of the U.N. Special Commission in charge of scrapping Baghdad's WMD, said that while Iraq had blueprints and considerable knowledge, they tended to lag in the engineering aspect. Also, the Iraqis had been noticeably slowed by the inability to obtain what they needed from abroad as Western government

controls began to stymie deliveries.

Looking at the broader Iraqi picture, it is clear this Arab nation did show considerable enterprise in getting as far as it did.

Basic items — factories, electrical supply, power equipment — were easy to buy. But, as Albright told me, "the more specific the equipment Iraq sought, the more countries export controls began to bite. Crucial transfers of components were effectively blocked."

Orders were subdivided into subcomponents which, on paper, looked innocuous. Or machines were bought to manufacture something back home. Middlemen and unethical companies in their hundreds were bribed to disguise final destinations or to falsify end-users certificates in much the same way as South Africa (under U.N. sanctions) stocked its arsenal with embargoed items of choice.

German technicians were secretly hired to work on the Arab bomb project. Once the IAEA went to work and uncovered names, some of these people were charged with treason. Several were jailed.

What The Future Holds

What then of the future? Iran, according to some sources, might be further ahead than Iraq by the time UNSCOM arrived to start their search.

Should Tehran have managed to acquire a supply of weapons grade uranium on the FSU black market — and there is a lot of conjecture right now (television sensation-

alism apart) that the mullahs might have done exactly that — it is not impossible that they are on the brink of their own atomic revolution. The implications of such a proposition are chilling.

As David Kay says, "the failed efforts of both the IAEA safeguards inspectors and national intelligence authorities to detect prior to the Gulf War a nuclear weapons Program of the magnitude and advanced character of Iraq's, should stand as a monument to the fallibility of on-site inspection and national intelligence when faced by a determined opponent.

"The Iraqi military build-up, as well as the multiple failures of its timely detection, is an experience rich in lessons that, if correctly understood, may help in detecting other covert weapons Programs and, equally important, U.S. understanding of the limits of its ability to guarantee timely detection."

This followed a comment by John Deutch, erstwhile U.S. Director of Intelligence, in Foreign Affairs in 1992:

"The point is not how wrong the United States was about Iraq's timetable for acquiring a bomb, but rather how greatly the U.S. underestimated the magnitude of the Iraqi covert effort. As it stands, such a massive miscalculation of a nation's ability, high or low, can surely happen again," he declared.

Al J. Venter has been a regular contributor to Soldier Of Fortune for much of the past quarter century and resides in Washington state. ✕

AUTAUGA ARMS, INC.

SUPER SNIPER SHOOTOUT

Only The Best!

SPONSORED BY

**AUTAUGA ARMS
INCORPORATED**

740 E. Main • Pratt Plaza Mall • Suite 13
Prattville, Alabama 36067
334-361-2950 • FAX: 334-361-2961 • 800-262-9563

EUROPEAN SUPER SNIPER COMING THIS SEPTEMBER!

All active certified
police, SWAT, govern-
ment, or private agen-
cies and supervisors

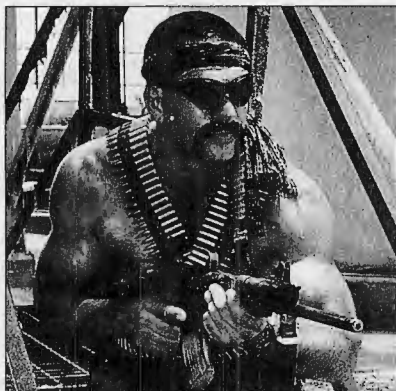
TAKE AIM

for the Autauga Arms
Inc. Super Sniper
Shootout.® Two-man
teams from around
the world will be
competing March
15-18, 1998 at the
NRA Whittington
Center, Raton, New
Mexico. No registra-
tion after January 1,
1998. Call for details!

“NAVY SEAL BUDS TRAINING VIDEO”

Altho there are many men physically strong enough to be SEALs, few have the mental toughness to go with it. Identifying those few is what BUDs training is all about. Witness the harsh physical & mental training programs that condition SEALs to prevail under any type of pressure. See motivation & self control tested to the limit as trainees endure the tortures of Hell Week. Discover mind control techniques used by SEALs to persevere despite extreme stress, cold and fatigue. Don't miss this chance to see the extraordinary abilities that define the modern Navy SEAL. *A LOTI Group film.* Only **\$19.95+S&H**

“NAVY SEAL INDUSTRIAL STRENGTH PT” featuring C.J. Caracci



When you perform at an optimum level, the mind and body are one. At those times even the most strenuous tasks seem easy. Combat survival frequently depends on this developed toughness. The role of physical training can't be over emphasized. SEAL veteran & tactical training expert C.J. Caracci conducts this fast paced one on one session. This concentrated series of SEAL exercises is guaranteed to deliver twice the results in half the time. This new **accelerated total body workout** is the answer to those requiring maximum results in minimum time. This video has all the vigorous physical conditioning needed to achieve optimum level performance *A LOTI Group film.* Only **\$19.95+S&H**

Videos \$19.95+\$3.00 S&H per order. FL residents add 6% tax. Send to: **LOTI GROUP 15720 SUNSET DRIVE SUITE #305 MIAMI, FL 33193**
Sales benefit UDT SEAL Museum.

A Mine Is A Terrible Thing

Continued from page 69

Scatterable Mines

Not an actual mine or system, FASCAM (Family of Scatterable Mines) is a generic term for mines that do not require traditional placement by hand or with a mechanical layer. The mines in this family may be rapidly deployed by air, ground vehicle or with artillery delivery methods. Mines in this category may be AP or AT mines and may be “smart” or “dumb.” Some examples are the U.S. ADAM, the Italian SB-33, and the Russian PFM-1 “Butterfly.”

Land-Mine IQ Test

Much has been heard about “smart” and “dumb” ordnance. During the Persian Gulf War the general public became aware of so-called “smart bombs.” These laser- or television-guided electronic marvels can supposedly fly up a bull's backside without disturbing a hair.

Not restricted to bombs and missiles, the computer age has added a new dimension to land-mine warfare. Take the U.S. ERAM (Extended Range Anti-armor Munition). Truly a mine with a mind of its own. Air delivered from the CBU (Cluster Bomb Unit)-92/B, the ERAM parachutes to the ground, deploys three electronic probes, and waits. When the probes detect, classify and track an enemy tank the ERAM calculates the tank's future position, rotates to align itself with the target, and fires one of its two sub-mines (known as Skeets). Once launched, the Skeet acquires the target tank and fires a self-forging fragment (SFF) projectile down through the light armor of the vehicle's top. Other common “smart” mines are the Austrian ATM 2000E and the German AT 2.

A very desirable feature commonly associated with “smart” mines is the ability of many to self-neutralize or self-destruct after a given period of time, thus avoiding civilian casualties.

Mine Extraction

Over the years countless methods have been employed in efforts to safely clear mine fields. Some methods fail, others succeed, and a few are truly bizarre. Finding the mines, the first step in any clearance operation, is often hardest.

The surest detection method — probing by hand — is also the slowest and most dangerous. In this operation, popular in old war movies, the mine-clearance tech carefully slides a thin, sharp probe into the ground at an angle, hoping to find a mine by touch. The trick here is to find the mine before it finds you. Other methods involve trained dogs and a myriad of simple and complex electronic detectors.

The next step in mine clearance is disposing of the device. This can run the gamut from blowing it in place to hand removal. Most countries have specialized equipment

ADVENTURE CAMP



The NRA Whittington Center Adventure for Kids!

Located in the Rocky Mountains of Northeastern New Mexico, the camp is designed for young people between the ages of 13 and 17. Instruction in camping, outdoor cooking, safety and marksmanship with all firearms, tracking, map and compass skills and much more is provided in a positive two-week learning experience by some of the most proficient instructors in the nation. Call us at 505/445-3615 for more information.



THE NRA
WHITTINGTON CENTER,
BOX 700,
RATON, NEW MEXICO 87740

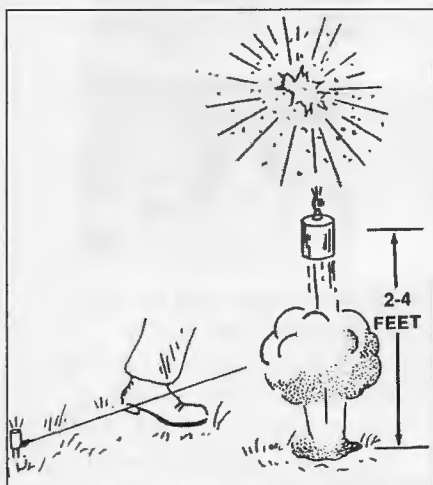
Advertising space donated as a public service by Soldier of Fortune Magazine

and techniques for mine clearance, including mine plows, rollers and flails mounted on the front of tanks, explosive charges propelled and detonated over the mine field, and setting fire to the vegetation covering the area in hopes it will set off the mines. There is no one method that will work for all mines, in all places, under all conditions. What works in the jungle may well fall flat in the desert.

All That Ammo

Along with mines, all battlefields are littered with deadly unexploded ordnance (UXO). Better known as duds, UXOs remain in battlefields forever and a day. Regardless of who shoots or drops what, a certain percent doesn't go off as designed, laying in wait to confuse the mine clearer or kill the unwary.

In addition, all shells and bombs that do explode litter the battlefield with billions



The "Bounding" type of anti-personnel fragmentation mine (pictured here) is generally shaped like a beer can. When set off by a trip wire, the device springs two to four feet into the air before exploding. The frag kills or injures personnel several meters from the blast. Common models are the Czech PP-Mi-Sr and the U.S. M-16A1.

of metal fragments. Metal detectors go nuts. Good luck finding that tiny steel firing pin on a mine with some handy dandy electronic device.

Despite political winds and the goals of a beloved dead princess, mines and live ordnance will always abound. The best efforts of high-tech, low-tech or no-tech clearance schemes will continue to fail.

Without 100-percent assurance all bad things that go boom have vanished from the planet, the best course of action is to know where danger may lurk. Feel-good causes come and go. But now and forever, mines will cripple and kill — enemies and children alike.

Richard Sherrow is SOF's contributing editor for forensic sciences and has, among other credits, a great deal of time behind the T-bars of U.S. tanks. ☒

Quality Grips

for
Para-Ordinance®

Models P10, P14 & P16



Wrap-around grips
Suggested Retail
\$19.95



Wrap-around grips
Suggested Retail \$18.95
Grip Extension
(fits all models)
Suggested Retail \$9.95

- Easily converted to side panel grips.
- Adds no additional width to the handgun.
- Finger groove grips for models P12 and P13.

Available from your favorite distributor.

For information contact:

PEARCE GRIP, INC.

1-800-390-9420 • (425) 485-5488 • Fax (425) 488-7102



(Shown with optional helmet mount)

NEW! F-6015B

**UNIVERSAL
TACTICAL MONOCULAR**

**ITT
NIGHT VISION**

WITH US MILITARY AN/PVS-14 TECHNOLOGY

ITT's most versatile, high-resolution, GEN-3 image intensification system ever! Lightweight and capable of being used hand-held, head/helmet mounted, attached to a 35mm/video camera or weapons rail mounted in conjunction with a laser or optical sight!

Standard Features:

- 45 lp Resolution (min)
- 1300 ua Photosensitivity (typ)
- IR Illuminator & Low Battery/IR Indicators
- Water Resistant Mil-Spec Housing & Optics
- Bright Source Protection Circuitry
- Uses 2x 'AA' Batteries (included)
- Waterproof Pelican Hard Storage Case

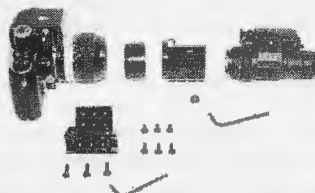
Standard System

\$3199 00

Deluxe System

w/Military Headmount

\$3499 00



F6015B w/Universal Adaptor Kit (Camera Not Included)

F6015 Universal Adaptor Kit

Use your F6015B for night vision photography! Includes adaptor ring for 35mm/video cameras and fully adjustable weaver rail mount for use with a variety of optical sights.

Only **\$225 00**

THE POLICE SUPPLY STORE <http://www.policesupply.com>

PH (800) 998-7007 FAX (800) 998-7006

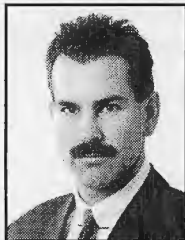
P.O. Box 411, Diamond Springs, CA 95619

THERE IS A NEW LEADER...

Front Sight Firearms Training Institute is the new leader in the firearms training industry.

Front Sight is setting the pace for others to follow by delivering uncompromising standards of instruction, unprecedented student satisfaction, and the greatest value for your training dollar. Experience just one course and you too will know why students travel from across the U.S. and around the world to train at Front Sight. Whatever your present level of ability may be – from the first-time gun owner to expert or master level shooters and instructors – you will significantly improve your skills during the time you spend under Front Sight's tutelage.

If my claims don't match your experience,



I will pay for your training.

You have my personal guarantee.

*Dr. Ignatius Piazza,
Founder and Director,
Four Weapons
Combat Master, 1993*

Just a few of the reasons why Front Sight should be your training institute:

- Convenient, two day and four day weekend courses. Handgun, shotgun, rifle, and submachine gun. All courses open to private citizens.
- Intensified courses. No down time. Three days of training in two. Six days of training in four.
- World class instruction staff from law enforcement, military and private industry who know how to teach in a consistent, professional, personable manner and perform on demand all techniques that they instruct.
- One instructor for every four-to-five students on the firing line. One-on-one instruction in the live-fire tactical training simulators.
- Free shirts, hats, lapel pins, take home targets, food and beverages in selected courses.
- *Buddy System Pricing* to save 25% of course tuition and 50% of travel and lodging expenses.
- Special *Front Sight Family* savings of up to \$300.00 on subsequent courses.
- Annual Student Appreciation Weekend, Free Submachine Gun Seminar with guns and ammunition provided free of charge to all students.

1-800-987-7719

Call for a Free Brochure



email info@frontsight.com

Front Sight's Website: <http://www.frontsight.com>

Cabindans

Continued from page 37

20 kilometers northwest of Buco Zau. These Asian "immigrants" are gold prospectors and miners carrying identification documents issued by FLEC-FAC necessary for movement in FLEC-controlled areas. The gold-bearing Buco Zau area is strongly separatist in sympathies and has long been an FDC (*Frente Democratica Cabinda*) stronghold but FLEC controls the gold deposits around Bembo Bote and Tando Conde, respectively, just a few clicks north and south of Buco Zau, causing some conflict between the factions. The government has reacted with counter-insurgency operations.

At the same time (spring and summer, 1997) FLEC began reinforcing its military units with about 400 guerrillas of unknown origin, organized into 20-man groups which FLEC optimistically called battalions. Their mission: Step up attacks against government forces. On 18 March (1997), FLEC guerrillas attacked an FAA patrol killing five soldiers and wounding others.

FLEC-FAC's more-bloodthirsty rival faction, FLEC-Renovada, soon joined the act pursuing its well-known penchant for hacking off the noses and ears of suspected government "agents."

Despite the renewed (and successful) attacks on government forces and the prospects of increased income from gold mining, not everything is going in FLEC's favor. In addition to the disastrous assault on the six FAA tanks at Subantando, a FLEC-Renovada officer recently deserted. Joao Batista Bras, a FLEC-Renovada major, deserted and turned himself in to government authorities 10 July 1997.

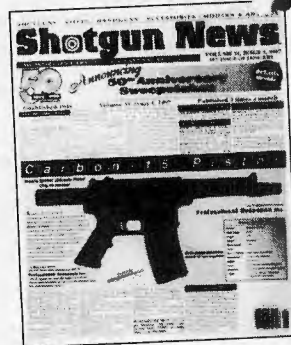
Enter Comandos de Angolanas

FAA combat operations against FLEC fighters continued throughout the summer. A commando unit, *Comandos de Angolanas*, carried out counter-insurgency operations, but engaged FLEC in little, if any, actual combat. Training exercises and uneventful patrols were the norm. The comandos have a fearful reputation in Angola. Comandos de Angolanas units were responsible for the elimination of *garimpeiros* (illegal diamond miners) from the Sociedade Mineira de Lucapa diamond mines in Lucap in the spring of 1995. It was brutal, sometimes bloody, and always effective.

Now they turned up in Cabinda to roust out FLEC; only this time the enemy had AK-47s instead of picks and shovels and were hardened guerrilla fighters, not poor farmers trying to get lucky in the diamond fields. The first thing I noticed, upon arriving in a commando bivouac, besides dozens of empty liter bottles of Zairean Primus beer littering the ground, were two "commandos" sprawled face-down in the dirt next to a pile of Kalashnikovs. A few

Get
Gun Smart
Today!

Getting gun smart means knowing where the firearms bargains are, and the only lesson you need is taught in every issue of SHOTGUN NEWS.



From the first easy-to-read page to the last, you'll quickly learn how to get the best deals in the nation on practically every kind of rifle, handgun or shotgun on the market. Plus there are optics, ammunition, militaria, gun parts and hundreds of other accessories and services.

SHOTGUN NEWS serves every firearms need — target shooting, sporting, dealers, collecting, personal defense, and more! Test it and see with our *No-Risk Guarantee!*

Get *Gun Smart* today with
SHOTGUN NEWS

Subscriptions only



1-800-345-6923

Order Code **0A97G**

Call daily 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. CT

1 year/36 issues — \$28.95

(Only 80¢ per issue)

(prices subject to change without notice - order today!)

Send ad with check or money-order to:

Shotgun News

The World's Largest Gun Sales Publication
PO BOX 669 • Hastings, NE 68902

feet away was a pile of loaded-and-armed RPGs. Load-bearing equipment was scattered haphazardly about the area. New, just-out-of-the-box, DPM camouflage SpecOps rucksacks were strewn about. Each soldier wore near-new FAA woodland-pattern combat fatigues tailored in the French style, with zips on the breast pockets, black berets, now-U.S.M.C.-issue Kabar fighting knives, and, even though it was 1900 hrs., cheap, plastic Easy Rider-style sunglasses. Real wannabe bad dudes, but with the whiskey and beer in them I thought it wise to play along with their Ramboesque bravado. Nothing's scarier than a mean drunk with a full-auto Kalashnikov. A few nights later, two different FAA infantry units would squabble and lunge for their rifles. One soldier was wounded in the ensuing firefight as expatriates living nearby scrambled for cover.

I wandered amongst the troops, several of whom carried Kabars, a machete, and a Kalashnikov bayonet on their belts — and a bottle of beer in their hands. Most of the comandos had a glassy-eyed, blank-faced expression (indicating the likely enthusiastic use of *other* substances) while they wandered about aimlessly or lolled on the ground grooving to the sounds from their cassette players. Most were plain drunk — and belligerent. They pointedly demanded whiskey and cigarettes and I quickly became a lightning rod for every staggering loco looking for a handout.

I spoke with one of their officers, a clean, nattily dressed major decked-out in pressed BDUs adorned with French and Angolan parachute badges. After chatting for 15 minutes I bade him farewell. Night was fast-approaching and I needed to hitch a ride into Cabinda city. If the major's troops were this wasted this early, I didn't want to hang with them after dark.

Despite the presence of the Comandos de Angolanas, Cabindan separatists continue to stage isolated attacks on oil-company vehicles, equipment, and personnel, but inflict scant damage on Chevron's installations. Chevron, however, has cautioned its employees that there is "a growing threat of potential disruption to oil operations."

Casualties to government troops and guerrillas are largely unreliable as skirmishes with FLEC are rarely reported by the government-controlled media. The lack of coverage by the western press might be explained by the recent State Department travel warning: "Travel within Angola remains unsafe due to the presence of bandits, undisciplined police and troops, and unexploded land mines in rural areas."

Situation normal — for Cabinda.

Rob Krott, SOF's New York-based Senior Foreign Correspondent, has covered conflicts in Bosnia, Burma, Cambodia, Somalia, and the Sudan. ✕

A Law Unto Themselves

Continued from page 53

the country's three leading insurgent groups, FARC, ELN, and EPL. As "political" bodies, they articulate solutions to grievances, both real and imagined. But since they have weapons (which they claim to be a matter of self-defense), they can force people to deal with them.

Enter the military, as police are only minimally prepared to deal with the terror integral to any insurgent campaign.

For Coronado and his fellow security force members — all of whom in counterin-

surgency units are volunteers — the imperfections of the system are not the issue: The attempt to abandon existing democratic structure and force through the insurgent's solutions is.

Why do individuals join the insurgents? How to explain that they do so even as guerrilla groups engage in widespread, systematic terror?

Enlisting The Innocent

The answer lies in the fact that joining and continuing are not the same act. In this respect, Coronado's focus upon youth is well-founded. Discussions with surrenderees bear out the worst fears of those who see the young being shanghaied by a

GLOBAL IMPACT.



Throughout the world, Starline brass leads the way in innovation, quality and value. By listening to customers, Starline has grown from manufacturing a single unprimed handgun brass case to over forty of the most popular and unique calibers on the market. Chosen by the world's top shooting competitors, Starline brass performs equally well in hunting and plinking situations. Discover Starline value for yourself. Call 1-800-280-6660 for a free brochure or visit our web site at www.starlinebrass.com.

And remember, a great shot starts with Starline.



1300 West Henry Street • P.O. Box 833
Sedalia, MO 65301
800-280-6660 • 660-827-6640
FAX 660-827-6650
Visit our World Wide Web site at www.starlinebrass.com

Prices include shipping and handling within the United States except Alaska and Hawaii. Prices effective September 18, 1997, and subject to change without notice. TERMS: Payment must accompany order. VISA, MasterCard, Discover, cashiers check, money order, personal checks accepted. Orders subject to check clearance.



NEW ★ UNPRIMED ★ UNPLATED HANDGUN BRASS		
CALIBER	500 PAK	1000 PAK
380 AUTO	\$ 38.00	\$ 72.00
9 SUPER COMP	\$ 52.00	\$ 97.00
9MM	\$ 36.00	\$ 68.00
9MM+P	\$ 37.50	\$ 69.50
9X21	\$ 41.00	\$ 72.00
9MM MAKAROV	\$ 39.00	\$ 70.00
9MM LARGO	\$ 45.00	\$ 79.00
9MM WIN MAG	\$ 60.00	\$105.00
38 SUPER	\$ 41.00	\$ 72.00
38 SPECIAL	\$ 35.00	\$ 65.00
38 SPECIAL+P	\$ 36.50	\$ 66.50
38 SUPER COMP	\$ 49.00	\$ 92.00
38 SHORT COLT	\$ 39.00	\$ 70.00
38 LONG COLT	\$ 41.00	\$ 74.00
32 H&R MAG	\$ 48.00	\$ 91.00
357 MAG	\$ 38.00	\$ 70.00
44 MAG	\$ 48.00	\$ 90.00
44 SPECIAL	\$ 48.00	\$ 91.00
41 MAGNUM	\$ 48.00	\$ 91.00
45 AUTO	\$ 46.00	\$ 86.00
45 AUTO+P	\$ 56.00	\$104.00
45 SUPER	\$ 60.00	\$111.00
45 COLT	\$ 50.00	\$ 93.00
45 WIN MAG	\$ 66.00	\$119.00
10MM	\$ 49.00	\$ 92.00
40 S&W	\$ 48.00	\$ 91.00
10MM MAGNUM	\$ 63.00	\$117.00
445 SUPER MAG	\$130.00	\$228.00
414 SUPER MAG	\$130.00	\$228.00
45 S&W SCHOFIELD	\$ 56.00	\$ 96.00
44 RUSSIAN	\$ 56.00	\$ 96.00
356 TSW	\$ 51.00	\$ 89.00
357 SIG	\$ 53.00	\$ 94.00
32/20	\$ 65.00	\$117.00
38/40	\$ 65.00	\$118.00
454 CASULL	\$ 98.00	\$184.00
44/40	\$ 60.00	\$108.00
45/70	Available Soon	
400 COR-BON	\$ 55.00	\$ 96.00
7.62X25 TOKAREV	\$ 61.00	\$107.00
30 MAUSER	\$ 61.00	\$107.00

NITE-EYES™ OVERNITE

"Two Day Tritium Sight Installation"

- 10 year illumination guarantee
- Three Dot (Bright Green Front, Yellow Rear)

If you need tritium sights **RIGHT NOW** give us a call. The Wilson Combat™ "Nite-Eyes Overnite" program allows you to have a great pair of Nite-Eye™ Snag Free Tritium Sights installed by Wilson pistolsmiths in a fraction of the time required by most other gunsmiths. Simply call (800) 955-4856 for a confirmation number and send your slide via U.P.S. Your sights will be installed within two working days after receipt. If not, we pay for next day delivery back to you. **Dovetail cuts will be cold blued & lateral sight adjustment may be required.

We replace sights on the following pistols: 1911 Style Autos, Glock 17/19/20/21/22/23, Sig 220/226/228/229 & Browning Hi-Power

\$185.00 Parts/Materials/Return Shipping (2 Day)
Brownings requiring dovetail cut add \$20.00

1-800-955-4856

<http://www.wilsoncombat.com>

2234 CR 719, P.O. Box 578, Berryville, AR 72616



cause of which they know little — and then finding themselves bearing arms against democracy.

Noted Coronado, "When the task force first came to the area, people were hesitant to talk to us or help us in the slightest. They were frightened. But now everyone likes the army. This war is at heart psychological and nothing else."

The Future

That is an accurate analysis, but it is one that implies a task rather than a conclusion. Areas such as Choco are typical in Colombia, solutions such as Coronado's are not.

Coronado's understanding of psychological warfare has given him the concept for employment of the tools at his disposal, be they combat operations or educational programs. He has made particularly good use of Convivir as a force multiplier, providing his men with an intelligence capability the insurgents are unable to match.

But this has not made them go away. That will come only when there is a *national* effort similar to Coronado's. This will be difficult, and therein lies the rub in the Supreme Court's decision.

Because 4th Brigade reacted quickly to the situation, and because, ultimately, Coronado was the right man for the job ("Nothing goes on there that he does not know about," laughs Ospina) the approach and the tools proved adequate to the task. Nationwide, however, such has not been the case.

To the contrary, as stated above, there are many areas where the situation has been allowed to deteriorate to the point that heavily armed paramilitaries, outside the Convivir system, engage the insurgents in battle. To condemn them, or the fallout from their actions, however, is to miss the forest for the trees.

Paramilitaries exist because of the state's failure to provide the most basic of all commodities: security. Blanket condemnations of "paramilitaries" simply do not grapple with this reality, as reflected in Colombia's 28,000-plus annual deaths.

There is both opportunity and danger in a system so out of step with its people. The opportunity lies in the hope that, stirred to action (enraged might be a better term), the populace will opt for more credible candidates and solutions.

The danger lies in what is happening now, when the disenchanted simply turn their backs on the system and go their own way. How this can be avoided is well demonstrated by Coronado and Task Force Choco. How it can become a reality is evident in areas to the south where a narcotics-fueled anarchy reigns.

What Choco demonstrates is that there are officers who understand well the mechanics of the chore, of the proper balance to be struck between operations of various sorts, between security forces and a mobilized populace.

Certainly, differences in scale must be taken into account — large unit operations

Genuine SAS & PARA Smocks	Genuine SAS Tactical Assault Vest	GENUINE BRITISH MILITARY KIT
SAS SMOCK 	SAS TAC VEST 	
Genuine British 1950 Denison Smock 	Genuine SBS Military Watch 	
DENISON SMOCK	SPECIAL BOAT SERVICES	
Genuine British Military Watches	CWC Beware of imitations	
NAVIGATORS	MECHANICAL GENERAL SERVICE	

Phone or send for **FREE** 100+ page catalogue. Silverman's (SOF), Mile End, London E1 4PS England. Phone 011-44-1717-900-900. Fax 011-44-171-791-0008

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____
 State / Zip _____

Sorry, no APO Addresses
 Orders dispatched by air mail £19.99 per order

BODY ARMOR THAT STOPS .44 MAGNUMS

and weighs only 3 lbs.!



SOFT. COMFORTABLE. CONCEALABLE

MED: \$170 LRG: \$205 XL: \$275 XXL: \$315
 Adjustable ballistic panel carriers available in white and navy.

5 YEAR WARRANTY ON BALLISTICS

Prepaid orders add \$5. \$10 charge for COD's.
 One week shipping for stock sizes.
 State height and weight when ordering.
 Money orders and certified check's accepted.
 COD's cash only. Air Shipping Extra.

MICHIGAN BODY ARMOR

P.O. BOX 251423, WEST BLOOMFIELD, MI 48325
 TEL/FAX: 248-788-2234

require a good bit more finesse than maneuvering a task force — yet a correct concept of operations is the first requirement in any counterinsurgency.

And a good, working model has been provided by the Choco campaign.

A former infantry officer, Senior Foreign Correspondent Dr. Tom Marks has traveled to innumerable countries in Asia, South America and Europe on our behalf over the last 15 years to form his analyses from first-hand information. He recently returned from South America. ✕

Merc's Multi-Tools

Continued from page 73

most-used tools in a handily pocketed envelope that is very likely to be with you when you need it. The spring-loaded pliers make repetitive work go much faster.

Although strongly made and finely finished, the Pocket Toolbox sells for a little more than half that asked for the average folders we've been discussing here, making it a very good value.

A.G. Russell Fine Knives, Dept. SOF, 1705 N. Thompson St., Springdale, AR 72764-1294; phone: 800-255-9034; fax: 501-751-4520.

Mini Plier, Handi Mechanic, Multi-Wrench

In tools, like guns, you get what you pay for. But that is not to say there are no bargains. Just as a surplus GI-rifle will often do the same job as an expensive sporter at a fraction of its cost, so often will tools made to a standard of cost-effective utility be more practical than premium grade tools if you know they might be subject to abuse or vulnerable to theft.

Frost Cutlery imports a full spectrum of cutting implements from premium-grade to utility grade, and from among their more economical offerings we selected three that are a lot of tool for the money if function is more important to you than

fit and finish.

The *Mini Plier* is a pocketable-size spring-loaded plier with wire cutter, spearpoint blade, serrated sheepsfoot blade, and small square-bar screwdriver with nail file, and belt clip. The plier handle is designed as a pry bar (about right for paint can lids). Everything works; spend some time with a diamond hone and Simichrome and colleagues will be very surprised what you paid.

Frost's *Handi Mechanic* is their PRC version of a tool variously made in Taiwan and China, which has a solid design and is entirely functional at a grocery-store tool-bin price. Some catalogs list this for \$48, Frost sells it for less than half that, and it offers: strong needlenose pliers with wire cutter and interior radius; small/large square-bar, Phillips screwdrivers; nail file, serrated blade; cuneiform blade with bottle/can opener, wire stripping notches, large spearpoint blade, pry-bar handle. A strong unit. Polish it up and have a lot of tool for the money.

The *Multi-Wrench* is an economical option if you anticipate turning a nut and cutting rope. The small adjustable wrench is complemented by a spearpoint blade, serrated blade, square-blade and Phillips screwdrivers, belt clip. Not heavy duty, but functional and economical. Any Simichrome left over? Get to work!

Frost Cutlery, Dept. SOF, P.O., Box 22636, Chattanooga, TN 37422; phone: 423-894-6079; fax: 423-894-9576. ✕



Frost Cutlery's economy tools from the PRC represent good value when function is more important than finish.



ELECTRIC LOCK PICK

Most electric lock pick ads are grossly exaggerated - and most electric lock picks are grossly overpriced.

Enter the E100HO by SouthOrd. Machined aluminum construction and a 4.5 volt motor combine with precision, durability and factory support to bring you the greatest value in the industry. Includes four picking needles, three tension tools, and adjustment wrenches.

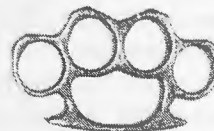
E100HO (assembled) - \$179.95
E100HO Kit - \$99.95

AUTO WEDGIE

For police officers, repo people, wrecker drivers, auto repair shops, car dealers, and anyone who needs to open a vehicle, this tool that we fondly call "The Auto Wedgie", is about all you'll ever need. Forget about spending hundreds of dollars on specialty tools, bent wire devices, jigglers, trout keys and so on. This "wonder tool", by SouthOrd, opens just about every car, van, and small truck on the road—even the new models that are immune to a slim jim. We know it all sounds just too good to be true—but buy one, and you will be a believer! The set comes complete with a Slide Rod, and a Nylon Wedge for compromising convertibles. SJW-3 \$79.95

SAP GLOVES

I love these gloves—used them for years! They're great protection when climbing fences during a foot pursuit, just riding your cycle, or protecting your knuckles when some cowboy decides to run his face into them! Each glove has 8 oz of powdered lead embedded in the knuckle area. Discreet protection. State size when ordering. D-100 (deerskin) \$69.95 pr. D-50 (cowhide) \$39.95 pr.



BRASS KNUCKLES

A blast from the past! These "1928" knuckle dusters take us back to the days of prohibition, black sedans, and "Tommy" guns. They look great just laying on your desk, holding down those important papers. And believe it or not, they are so slick that many of our customers have used them to make foot pegs for their Harleys!

KNB (brass) \$13.50 each; \$24.40 per pair
KNA (aluminum) \$8.00 each; \$14.50 per pair

SOUTHORD RECON FIGHTER

Ok guys, if you like a fighting knife that's built like a Hummer, we've got one for ya! This beauty is heavy—and heavy duty. All stainless steel construction with checkered rubber handles. The feel reminds me of my old S&W 66 with the Pachmyers—it's rugged, reliable, and it won't let me down! Believe it—once you buy one of these "picks", you'll never let it go! Comes complete with a Web sheath. Overall length, eight and one quarter inches. KN-2n \$29.95



SOUTHERN ORDNANCE

THE SOUTHERN ORDNANCE CATALOG - loaded with hard to find items - Locksmith Tools, Pellet Rifles, Crossbows, Switchblades, Transmitters, Bug Detectors, Books, and Videos, Boxing Equipment, Police Supplies and Much, Much, Much More! Only \$5.00 or FREE with any order.

CHECK, MONEY ORDER, VISA, MASTERCARD, AMERICAN EXPRESS, OPTIMA
WARNING: Check State and Local Laws. Must be 18 years or older to order.

www.southord.com

e-mail: sales@southord.com

P.O. Box 279 • Babson Park, FL33827

CALL: (941) 638-2499 • FAX: (941) 638-2486

SOF Jumps into Cuba

Continued from page 47

fights in Budapest. Baseball is a great conversation starter. Cubans are serious about their baseball. Half the American League will be Cuban the day diplomatic relations are normalized. Few people know that Castro was a pitcher and once had a pro try-out with, strangely enough, the Yankees.

Castro's Yacht

Next stop on our walking tour of Havana was the *Granma* Memorial. *Granma* is the yacht which brought Fidel and his staff,

including Che Guevara, from Mexico in 1953 to start *la Revolucion*. Cuba is probably the only country in the world with a pleasure yacht displayed in a glass case. The Kremlin keeps Lenin under glass while Fidel has his boat. The *Granma* is behind the Museo de la Revolucion, formerly Fulgencio Batista's Presidential Palace. Parked in front is the "tank," actually a Soviet SAU-100 self-propelled assault gun, which Fidel commanded at the Bay of Pigs.

Of immediate interest to us were the Cuban-made weapons, especially the Fusil "Mambi," a 12.7mm sniper rifle similar in appearance to a Barret .50 caliber.

According to the placard in the case the Mambi is a "contra-holicateros" semi-auto

weapon firing B-32 cartridges loaded in a 10-round magazine. The Mambi weighs 14 kilograms, is 1.39 meters in length, with an effective range of 1,500-2,000 meters and a maximum range of 7,000 meters. The other weapon was a 7.62mm bolt action sniping rifle, the Fusil "Alejandro." Maximum range of the Alejandro 3,000 meters, with a maximum effective range of 800 meters with open sights and 1,300 meters (300 meters at night) with the PSU-IM2. It weighs 6.5 kg and uses a 10-round magazine.

The Giron exhibit here nicely rounded out what we'd already seen at Playa Giron. There were several weapons on display from the revolution. The eclectic collection of modified and improvised firearms used by Castro's guerrilla army in the Sierra Maesta was very interesting. But it seemed like most of the museum, actually whole floors, were devoted to Che Guevara. All manner of Che's personal effects and those of his companions in Bolivia were on display on the ground floor. Dozens of photos of Che, obvious propaganda shots, adorned the walls upstairs. There were pictures of Che sifting and smoking, Che laughing, Che harvesting sugar cane, Che harvesting more sugar cane, and of course, Che with Castro. It made me wonder, did the guy ever do anything besides pose for photos?

Che's likeness is omnipresent. Besides adorning the stories-high Ministry of Interior building, Che Guevara's visage stares at you from billboards exhorting Socialism.

They're all over the country. His face is plastered on key chains, bookmarks, refrigerator magnets, and of course, T-shirts. Che has become the official logo of the revolution. It seems the only commodity actually produced in Cuba are items bearing the likeness of Che Guevara. I hate to think of the impact on the economy if he'd never died.

Booze Tour Continues

El Floridita, within staggering distance and our second stop on Hemingway's Booze Tour of Havana, is a marked contrast to that hole in the wall, *La Bodeguita*. Once a simple bodega — ranked by *Esquire* in 1953 as one of the world's best bars — it is now among the most elegant and expensive bars in Havana after extensive renovation. It filled up for about 15 minutes once or twice an hour in the evening as another tour bus would stop. Walking through the door of the recently refurbished *El Floridita* is like taking a step back into time. Its uniformed, bow-tied waiters and light, airy decor were more in keeping with the 50-something silver-haired Italian sitting at the bar and stroking the bare back of a luscious 20-year-old *jinetera* than two broken-down American paratroopers. Though I had a feeling we'd have been at home there in Hemingway's day.

Belying-up to its mahogany bar, I gazed at the photos of Hemingway and various luminaries which decorated the walls. One is

SAFTA: NAVY SEAL FIGHTING SYSTEM

New Navy SEAL Video Featuring Lew Hicks

Fear No Man! Protect yourself in any situation using the fighting system created by the Navy SEALs' top hand-to-hand expert. Unsatisfied with Black Belts he holds in Okinawan Shorin-Ryu, Aikido, Kung Fu-San Soo, and his mastery of Free style and Greco-Roman wrestling, **Lew Hicks** created for his Navy SEAL Teammates, SAFTA — Scientifically Applied Force Training of America. Learn how to command total control using the fighting skills developed for the world's most elite commando force. "SAFTA: Navy SEAL Fighting System" features step by step instruction using fifty action-filled training lessons. Lew Hicks demonstrates over 150 SAFTA movements that develop the physical skills and "Affirmative Mindset" needed to dominate any violent encounter. Once limited to the Navy SEALs' secret training areas, this proven system has been filmed for the first time. Take an inside look as Navy SEALs train "full contact" using SAFTA, the *unbeatable scientific approach* to dynamic physical control.

- Discover how special SEAL skills and scientific principles combine to make SAFTA the most effective fighting system.
- See the Navy SEALs' premier unarmed tactics instructor expose the mysticism and false promises that surround all other fighting systems.
- Train with the Navy SEALs' best. Learn the "Weapons of the Body" Target Indexing" and "The Three Musts".



Join the SAFTA Team; develop the self-confidence and ability to fight like the legendary Navy SEALs. *This training is not available from any other source. Don't miss this chance — SAFTA is the real thing!* Meditation and psychology won't dispel the fear of being attacked. Only knowledge can conquer fear — by understanding anatomy and how the body responds when the skeletal structure is manipulated. This film is guaranteed to arm you with this knowledge.

Fear No Man!

Two Hours VHS Only **\$79.95 + S&H**

Endorsed by top SEAL Commanders & Elite Law Enforcement Tactical Units

Add \$3.00 S&H. FL residents add 6% tax. Send check or MO to: **LOTI GROUP**
15720 Sunset Drive Suite 305 Miami, FL 33193 (305) 386-1154

Tape sales benefit UDT SEAL Museum.

Continued on page 96

SUPPLY DEPOT

AT THE MATCH OR IN THE FIELD
GRIZZLY 50 BIG BOAR
BRINGS HOME THE TROPHY!

PRECISION CRAFTED 50 BMG
FOR UNSURPASSED ACCURACY & IMPACT
- 3,000 YARD EFFECTIVE RANGE -

FOR A CATALOG CONTACT



L.A.R.
MANUFACTURING, INC.
4133 West Farm Road
West Jordan, UT 84088
801-280-3505

Chambers the 50BMG Cartridge
Single Shot • Very Low Recoil • All Steel Construction
36 Inch Heavy Barrel with Compensator Reduces Recoil

NOW AVAILABLE!
TRIPOD & PINTLE MOUNT
Lightweight tripod with positive locking elevation and windage adjustment. Perfect for locking the Grizzly 50 Big Boar on target! 10 species of large game have been taken using a tripod equipped Grizzly 50 Big Boar!



Breech Loading Bolt Action Bull Pup

South African .223 Ammo

*NATO M193 SPEC *55GR FMJ
*BRASS CASE *BERDAN PRIMED
*WATERTIGHT PACKAGING *NON-CORROSIVE
*PERFECT FOR LONG TERM STORAGE

Battle Packs: Sealed, Watertight package contains 10 boxes of 30 rds. each=300 Rds.

Cases: Factory Sealed case contains 9 Battle Packs=2700 Rds.

BATTLE PACKS...#SA1...\$55.00

SPECIAL: 3 Battle Packs (900 rds.) \$155.00

CASES...#SA2...\$427.00

We accept checks, Money Orders and VISA & MC (Visa/MC Orders must add 3% to price)

FREE SHIPPING in Continental US!

Dealers call for Quantity Discount prices

Mail order & fax customers must include photocopy of drivers license and a signed statement to read: I certify that I am 21 years of age and no federal, state or local laws prohibit this purchase.

NIC, Inc. Law Enforcement Supply
500 Flournoy Lucas Rd. Bldg. #3-SOF398
Shreveport, LA 71106
TOLL FREE 888-642-0007 FAX 318-688-1367

Bodyguard Training Videos

Step by step VIP protection specialist training by highly respected and internationally experienced instructors. Each video is approximately 2 hours long.

VIDEO #1 - Classroom

- lecture covering
 - clothing
 - weapons
 - equipment
 - client relations
 - press relations
 - motorcade operations
 - team formations/positions
 - advance surveys
 - bomb searches

VIDEO #2 - Driving and

- firing range lessons
 - selecting vehicles
 - loading the principal
 - emergency evacuations
 - precision driving - reverse
 - motorcade operations
 - firearms techniques
 - head shots
 - weapon retention

VIDEO #3 - Advanced techniques due out in Dec. 1997
Each video is only \$79.95 + \$5.95 S & H
1-800-380-2709

outside U.S. call 1-407-975-5242 Hawk East, Inc. P.O. Box 339 • Stoneville, NC 27048 USA
www.bodyguard-training.com



BE A PARALEGAL!

Attorney-instructed home study course. Train now for one of America's fastest growing careers. Free career literature. **CALL 800-223-4542**

Name _____ Age _____
Address _____
City/State _____ Phone (____) _____
Zip _____
School of Paralegal Studies, Dept. LL.G171
PCDI, 6065 Roswell Rd., Atlanta, GA 30328



OUTDOOR CAREERS!

Home study. Train for great careers in forestry, conservation, wildlife, parks, ranges, preserves. Free literature: send or call 24 hours a day. **CALL NOW: 800-223-4542**

Name _____ Age _____
Address _____
City/State _____ Phone (____) _____
Zip _____
School of Conservation, Dept. NNC171
PCDI, 6065 Roswell Rd., Atlanta, GA 30328

Need NEW ID?

NOW YOU CAN GET...
ID BY MAIL

20 SOURCES-FULLY ILLUSTRATED

- Birth and Baptismal Certificates
- Drivers Licenses (blank)—50 States
- Blank Social Security Cards
- College Degrees—Bachelors, MA, PhD
- High School Diplomas, also GED
- Photo ID Cards—all 50 States
- "Professional" ID Cards—over 200 Styles
- Job Reference Kits, Past W-2 Forms
- Foreign & Camouflage Passports
- Police/Military ID and Patches
- Photographer ID, Press Credentials
- Embossing Seals, Rubber Stamps
- "Do-It-Yourself" ID Kits
- Secured MasterCard at 2X Deposit

ALL-NEW 64-PG. BOOK!

ID BY MAIL

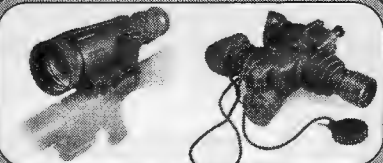
\$24.95

Cash, Check, Money Order, Visa/MC accepted, No CODs

EDEN PRESS
Box 84-10-AD
Fountain Valley, CA 92728

Latest Book Catalog FREE

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____



U.S. MANUFACTURED
NIGHT VISION
LOWEST PRICES GUARANTEED!

- Largest Selection in the USA!
- Super Specials: Now Save up to 40%!
- 2-Year Warranty!
- Optional Lifetime Warranty!
- Iron-Clad Money-Back Guarantee!



ITT **Litton** MADE IN USA

ORDERS: 1-800-424-8222
Info: 714-497-4683 • Fax: 714-497-1270



M.O.R.O.VISION
NIGHT VISION SPECIALIST SINCE 1991

219 Broadway, Suite 307/SF, Laguna Beach, CA 92651

T-SHIRTS

ADULT SIZES PRINTED AS MARKED

Left chest = LC • Full Front = FF

ADULT Sizes S-XL, add \$2.00 for XXL

100% Cotton Freshunk Heavyweight

T-Shirt. Printed on Front. Made in U.S.A.

Short Sleeve (SS) \$14.90

Long Sleeve (LS) \$17.90

S.O.S. is owned by a disabled survivor promoting positive self-esteem in the handicapped world.

1AM LC.ON BLACK T

WHITE PRINT

1AN FF.ON BLACK T

WHITE PRINT



SURVIVOR

6F BLACK JACKET WHITE PRINT

SURVIVOR JACKETS \$69.90

PRINTED LEFT CHEST AND FULL BACK

SATIN FINISH NYLON JACKET, FLANNEL LINED, KNIT CUFFS, COLLAR & BOTTOM BAND, ZIPPER FRONT & TWO SLASH POCKETS. MADE IN U.S.A.

SIZES: XS, S, M, L, XL ADD 5.00 FOR XXL, OR XXXL

Order Toll Free 1 800-958-8876

Have a credit card ready. We Accept VISA MC AMEX DISCOVER

Or Mail Check Or M.O. For Total + Shipping & Handling to S.O.S. California residents only; add 7.75% sales tax

Payable To; S.O.S. Shipping & Handling If your order totals:

P.O. Box 2205 \$25.00 or less \$ 4.95

Carmichael, Ca 95609 \$25.01 to \$50.00 \$ 6.95

OUTSIDE USA: \$50.01 to \$75.00 \$ 8.95

\$75.01 to \$100.00 \$ 9.95

Disable shipping & handling charges. Mail official check. Each additional \$100.00 (or portion of) add \$5.95

money order) payable USA funds. Allow 2 to 6 weeks for delivery

CVS/PHARM MAIL S.A.S.E. FOR CATALOG OR GET IT WITH FIRST ORDER.

PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE • SATISFACTION GUARANTEED • INTERNET: WWW.ISGNET.COM/SOS

SUPPLY DEPOT

The Warrior's Press, Inc.
Box 1237-A
Alpine, Texas 79831
CORRESPONDENCE COURSES

Patrolling - Part I	\$12.95
Patrolling - Part II	\$12.95
Reconnaissance Marine	\$23.95
9mm Pistol Personal Defense Weapon	\$9.95
The Squad Automatic Weapon (SAW)	\$8.95
Intelligence Fundamentals	\$6.95
Communications Security (COMSEC)	\$9.95
The CEOI	\$12.95
Security Safeguards	\$8.95
GEOREP	\$5.95
Handling Classified Documents	\$23.95
Identifying the Iraqi Threat & How They Fight	\$8.95
Security & Intelligence	\$9.95
Camouflage, Cover, Concealment & Battlefield Pos.	\$8.95
Hundreds More	

MILITARY MANUALS

Ranger Handbook (1992 ed)	\$16.95
Military Deception	\$16.95
M16 Rifle and Rifle Marksmanship	\$33.95
Jumpmaster Checklist	\$9.95
Soldier's Manual 11B Infantryman	\$69.95
Many, many more	

UNUSUAL & OUTRAGEOUS BOOKS

We carry all titles from Delta, Paladin & Loompanics
Add \$5.00 for shipping & handling
TX Residents add 8.25% Tax
Catalog listing hundreds of similar titles \$5.00
Visa or MC Orders Only: Fax (915) 837-1307
Add \$3.00 Processing Fee on Credit Card Orders

**#1 WORLD SUPPLIER
BODY ARMOR**

NIJ Certified
and
U.S. Gov.
Approved



MADE
IN
THE
U.S.A.

**COMPLETE LINE OF
CONCEALABLE VEST
AS LOW AS**

\$199.95

**AND TACTICAL,
INCLUDING FLAK JACKET,
HTV, NATO ASSAULT
AND DESERT STORM**

STARTING AT
\$499.95

For Armor Catalogue send \$4.00
or \$15.00 for 1500 page complete set

**Inter-American
Security Products, Inc.**
13615 S. Dixie Hwy., Suite 114-I
Miami, Florida 33176-7252
Ph.: (305) 256-0370
FAX: (305) 235-0603
E-Mail: interam@gate.net

**Become a gun
repair expert!**

This professional level home study course trains you to do expert work on all kinds of firearms. Call today for free career literature.

Call 800-223-4542

Name _____ Age _____
Address _____ Phone (____) _____
City/State _____ Zip _____

The School of Gunsmithing
Dept. GGC171, 6065 Roswell Road
PCDI, Atlanta, Georgia 30328



SAG-1

LIGHT SPRAY ALARM



It's not only an 18-inch Adjustable 6-Cell Flashlight, but you also have the added protection of an *In-line Pepper Spray* and a *130db Alarm!* • Complete with Rechargeable Batteries, AC & DC Chargers, Pepper Spray, Krypton Bulbs and Mounting Clip.

BUY DIRECT ~ ONLY \$139.50

Water/Scott International Corp.
1683 Winchester Rd • Bensalem PA 18020-4541
(215) 638-2448 • Fax (215) 638-9198



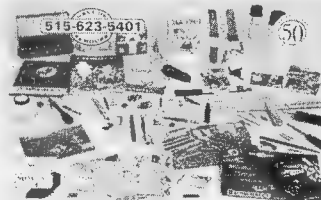
The Wishbook of
Gunsmithing
Supplies

BROWNELLS CATALOG

Everything
You Need To
Work On Guns

Repair, Customize and Personalize Handguns, Rifles and Shotguns

19,000 In-Stock Items!
Tools To Build and Repair
Handguns, Shotguns & Rifles - Hot, Cold & Rust Bluing - Nickel Plating - Engraving - Checkering - Bluing - Wood Stains, Finishes, Fillers - ACRAGLAS® Bedding Products - Latigo® Slings - Sights - Scope Mounts - Jigs & Fixtures



BROWNELLS

The Brands You Want & Need: Ahrends - Birchwood Casey - Brown - BoMar - Choate - Clark - Colonial - Dcwey - Douglas - Davis - EGW - Hogue - Kings - Leopold - Marbles - Michaels - Millett - Novak - Pachmayr - Power - Redfield - Shilen - Timney - Weaver - Wichita - Williams - Wilson - & More

282 Page Catalog only \$3.75 (\$4.75 Overseas), refundable on first order. FREE to full and part-time gunsmiths or any other business -- discount pricing available. *Everything* we sell is 100% GUARANTEED - Period!
Brownells, Inc., 200 S. Front St., Dept. #585, Montezuma, IA 50171-1000
MC, VISA, COD Check • Ph 515-623-5401 • Fax 515-623-3896 • BrownellUSA@aol.com

STEROIDS

WARNING! DON'T GET FOOLED BY FRAUDS!
Other companies selling steroid supplements claim to have products that can't compare because of their dosage. Ask complete details!



THIS PRODUCT IS TO BE TAKEN Orally.
100% Natural. No harmful side effects.

S&K LABS Boron
Can greatly increase your muscle, mass, strength and size. Industry claims Testosterone levels up to 300%! Greatly enhance your physical appearance literally sculpting your own body with huge, healthy, HARD MUSCLE!

Get that lean awesome body builder physique now with one 3 month cycle for only \$14.95!

If you are not completely satisfied with the growth you obtain within 15 days return it for a full refund.

MONEY BACK GUARANTEE!

To get your super anabolic growth cycle from:
S&K LABS

STAFF & SALES GENE WELCOME!
We require a personal check or a photo in order by cash on delivery

ORDER NOW!!! 1-800-275-7822
MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

Special Buy 2 bottles, get 1st bottle FREE!
Call 24 hours a day 1-800-275-7822 • All checks are cash on delivery
**S&K Labs, 2637 E. Atlantic Blvd., Suite 101
Pompano Beach, Florida 33062**

One Bottle (3) Month Cycle
\$14.95 + \$5.00 S&H

SPECIAL Buy (2) Bottles Get (1) FREE!
\$29.90 + \$5.00 S&H

Add \$10.00 for Priority Mail
International orders add 25% c.o.d.'s U.S. only
Yes, I would like a catalog with my order.

Name: _____
Address: _____
City/State/Zip: _____

High Capacity Magazines!

Original Cobray M11/9 32rd Zytel Mags



**ONLY
\$19.95!**

Prepaid - Add \$7.00 for S&H COD \$9.50

Call today for FREE parts catalog!

RPB P.O. Box 367
Avondale Estates, GA 30002
Order Line 1-800-858-0809

Free Catalog

**Military And
Law Enforcement
Gear**

**RANGER JOE'S
INTERNATIONAL**

325 Farr Rd
Columbus GA 31907
Tel: (706) 689-0082
Fax: (706) 682-8840
www.rangerjoes.com

1-800-247-4541

SUPPLY DEPOT

STEROIDS

ALTERNATIVE

INCREASES YOUR PERFORMANCE & STRENGTH
PREVENTS EXHAUSTION & MUSCLE BREAK DOWN
100% Natural, No side effects!



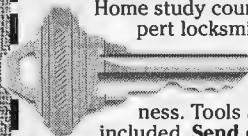
Creatine Monohydrate has legendary status among professional firefighters, bodybuilders and athletes for gaining size and power by improving your body's metabolic chemistry. Athletes who take Creatine gain over 5 lb of lean muscle mass and lose over 2 lb of body fat, all in just 6 weeks.

SIX WEEKS SUPPLY for only \$24.95 + S/H



order #: SF2-10101
100% Money Back Guarantee
1 (800) 491-1716

BE A LOCKSMITH!



Home study course. Become an expert locksmith. Prepare for a great career— or open up your own at-home business. Tools and key machine included. Send or call 24 hours a day for your free career literature.

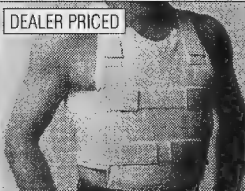
CALL NOW: 800-223-4542

Name _____ Age _____
Address _____
City/State _____
Zip _____ Phone (____) _____

THE SCHOOL OF LOCKSMITHING
Dept. LKC171, 6065 Roswell Road
PCDI, Atlanta, Georgia 30328

BULLETPROOF VEST

This Class 11-A-Kevlar soft body armor will defeat the .45 ACP, .357 Mag., 9mm, .00 Buck and knife attack. Tested at the Aberdeen Proving Grounds by the U.S. Government Edgewood Arsenal. Front and back protectors: \$220. Side Panels: \$45 per set. Trauma plate \$35. Sizes S, M, L, XL.



ALSO: Reloaded Ammunition: .38 spl. 158gr. FMJ \$125/M, 9mm 115gr. FMJ \$125/M, 40cal. 180 gr. FMJ \$165/M, .45 ACP 230 gr. FMJ \$165/M. Reloading since 1974.

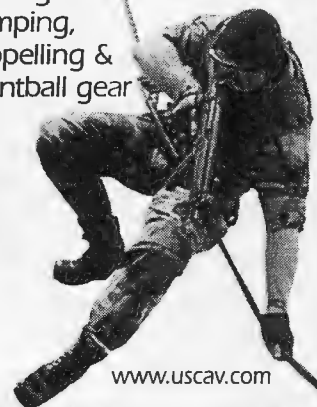
SEND CHECK OR MONEY ORDER TO:

MPS Co. 1441 W. John St., Matthews, NC 28106
Phone: (704) 847-8793 Fax (704) 847-4447
Established 1970

U.S. CAVALRY

120+ page catalog includes

- uniforms
- boots
- body armor
- target practice devices
- shooting accessories
- night vision optics
- batons
- flashlights
- camping, rappelling & paintball gear



www.uscav.com

For Your FREE Catalog Call
1-800-317-9455

New Factory Direct PVS-7b's



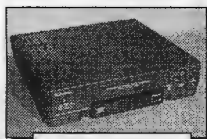
3rd Gen New!!!

Direct from the factory of ITT you will know what you're getting. Don't be fooled by "exc. cond tube" or "recondition tube" which really means used!!

Special Price of only.....\$2,495.00

(Note: Not for Export)

The VCR-Cam is a complete and covert video recording system. Built inside the working VCR is a hidden Video camera that records all the action. Great for keeping a eye on the babysitter or areas of larceny.



VCR-Cam™

Complete system\$895.00

Wireless AM/FM Clock Radio

The Radio Video Link II contains a hidden Black and White (or optional Color) camera that transmits a clear video signal up to 1 mile (using the optional high gain ant). The receiver will connect to any TV or VCR and the transmitter (2.4Ghz) is fully FCC Approved. (picture not shown due to security)

Complete system\$895.00

Tactical Video Security International
Order Line: (888) 588-6386 Fax: (540) 574-2494
E-Mail: ROBE101@AOL.com
P.O. Box 473, Pleasant Valley, VA 22848

BE A DETECTIVE

AND EARN YOUR BADGE

NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED

BADGE INCLUDED WITH COURSE

MEN & WOMEN!

Train at home for an exciting part or full-time career as a Private Detective. Start your own agency or work for others. Learn all the latest techniques from the experts. Taught by former military intelligence specialists, police and private detectives. The only course of its kind, the unique Global School of Investigation program will make you a PRIVATE DETECTIVE.

LEARN THE SECRETS to making money WITHOUT a license or experience. The biggest, most amazing home study course ever offered. Learn how to make money and become a Private Investigator. GUARANTEED!

CALL NOW **1-888-33 PVT EYE** FREE INFO-PACK
FAX **413-584-2140**

GLOBAL

SCHOOL OF INVESTIGATION

535 No. Farms Rd, Northampton, MA 01062

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

www.pvteye.com

FREE Catalog!

OUR LOWEST PRICES EVER!

Knives, Swords and Self-Defense Items



BUY DIRECT
Save UP TO 60%

Toll Free 1-800-543-5061 Ext. SD2

Clip coupon and mail to address below.

YES! Please send me the FREE 64-Page Catalog!

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____



Bud K. Worldwide, Inc.

P.O. Box 2768 • Dept SD2 • Moultrie, GA 31776

SUPPLY DEPOT

WARNING! Don't Get Fooled By Frauds.
Other companies claiming to have similar, better or all in one products can't compare because of mg dosage ask compare and beware.

STEROIDS

Alternative

This product is to be taken orally.
100% Natural, No harmful side effects.

S&K Labs Dibencozide!

Can greatly increase your Muscle mass strength and size. Greatly enhance your physical appearance literally sculpting your own body with huge healthy, hard muscle. Most people say the effects from Dibencozide are more than equal to Dianabol™, the "illegal Steroid."

Get that Lean awesome body builder physique now with one 2 month cycle for only **\$22.50!** If you are not completely satisfied with the growth you obtain within 15 days return it for a full refund.

Money back guarantee!

To get your super anabolic growth cycle from:

S&K Labs

C.O.D. Order Now!!! \$22.50 + Shipping
Cash On Delivery Welcome

1-800-275-7822

Special Buy 2 Bottles, Get 3rd bottle FREE

Call Toll Free-24 Hrs. a day-7 days a week

Or Send Check or Money Order To:

S&K Labs 2637 E. Atlantic Blvd., Suite 101
Pompano Beach, Florida 33062

One bottle (2 month cycle)

\$22.50 + \$4.00 S&H

SPECIAL BUY 2 BOTTLES GET 3rd BOTTLE FREE

\$45.00 for 3 bottles + \$4.00 S&H

Add \$10 for Priority Mail

Out of Country Orders + an Additional 25% C.O.D. U.S. Only

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone () _____

FREE BROCHURE

All the camo in the world
won't mask the sound
of a twig snapping
under a
boot...



HEAR

WHAT YOU CAN'T

SEE

Silver Creek
INDUSTRIES

A Sound Advantage

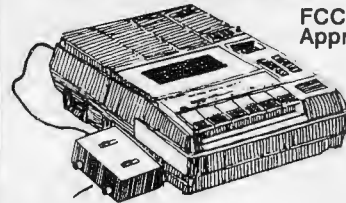
Wide range of sound amplifiers for hunting
& surveillance

1-800-533-3277

P.O. Box 1988 Manitowoc, WI 54221

TELEPHONE LISTENING DEVICE WITH 12 HR. RECORDER

FCC
Approved



Record telephone conversations in your office or home. Starts automatically when phone is answered, records both sides of phone conversation. Recorder stops when phone is hung up. \$99.95 + \$7 shipping. For telephone listening device separately \$19.95 + \$2 ship.

VERY POWERFUL FM TRANSMITTER



Transmits to any FM radio up to 1/2 mi.
Easy to assemble kit.
Up to 9V(not Incl.)
\$29.95 + \$2 sh.

For comprehensive 50 page catalog of Micro Video, VHF transmitters Surveillance and Counter-surveillance and much more! Send \$3.00.

Call 407-725-1000

USI CORP

P.O. Box SF2052 Melbourne, FL 32902
COD'S OK

CAPITALIZE ON CRIME

EARN
HUNDREDS
DAILY!



It Can
Pay **HUGE**
Profits!

FREE
WHOLESALE
CATALOG

Crime Prevention is a
Multi-million Dollar Business!
OUR DEVICES SELL LIKE CRAZY!

Larry Anderson
President

We carry the best line of security sprays, stun guns, personal sound alarms, burglar alarms and much more. We specialize in offering the best security products at the very best wholesale prices.

We can meet or beat any price on the market.

10% Pepper Sprays



4 oz.
Fogger

Key Chain Sprayer

Retail \$22.95
Sample \$6.25

Retail \$19.95
Sample \$4.25

Electronic Stun Guns

Security Plus®
100,000 Volt
Straight or
Curved

Retail \$69.95
Sample \$22.25



Security Plus®
300,000 Volt
Curved Only

Retail \$139.95
Sample \$45.95

Security Plus® 160,000 Volt Baton
Retail \$129.95
Sample \$43.95

CALL OR WRITE TODAY

We are committed to your success.
Crime does not wait, will you?

L.A. LAW ENFORCERS

209 W. Walnut • Yakima, WA 98902
(509)-457-9033 • FAX (509) 576-0969

L.A.P.D. STYLE BADGE

A Maxsell Exclusive



THE FINEST
BADGE IN
AMERICA

Reverse
Blue
Enamel
Panels

ACTUAL
SIZE
2 1/4" x 3 1/4"

PERMIT
NUMBER
ENGRAVED FREE

Finish: SILVER • GOLD • TWO-TONE
Custom Engraved \$99.50

Select Center Disk:

EAGLE
FLAGS
SCALES
STATE SCENE



LARGEST SELECTION OF BADGES IN THE USA

COLOR CATALOG \$2 (Free with Order)

Add \$4.00 USA Shpg or \$10 Foreign Shpg

LEATHER I.D./BADGE CASE \$15

MAXSELL CORPORATION (954) 568-1480
4038 Powerline Rd., Dept. SOF • Ft. Laud., FL 33309, USA

http://www.maxsell.com WE SHIP WORLDWIDE

When calling 911
just won't do...



TIMBERSHEPHERD®

-The Mercedes Benz of executive protection dogs.

-The Premium K-9.

-SOF Magazine

Pups and Trained Adults Available

L R R P K-9 SERVICES

Box 1620-MA

Aiken, SC 29802

(803) 649-5936

Brochure \$3.00 Broch & Video \$8.00

CLASSIFIED

1998 ADVERTISING DEADLINES

ISSUE	AD DEADLINE	ON SALE DATE
May	16 January 98	31 March 98
June	13 February 98	28 April 98
July	20 March 98	2 June 98
August	17 April 98	30 June 98
September	15 May 98	28 July 98
October	12 June 98	25 August 98
November	17 July 98	29 Sept 98
December	14 August 98	27 October 98

On-line: www.sofmag.com/mediakit.html

SATELLITE TELEPHONES

GLOBAL COMMUNICATIONS
DIGITAL VOICE * DATA * FAX

<http://www.cdradios.com>

Satellite Warehouse, Tucson, AZ
520-792-9429 Fax: 520-624-1629



PHOTO I.D. CARDS

Birth Certificates
High School Diplomas
College Degrees
Trade School Diplomas
Martial Arts Certificates
Investigator, Security Certificates
Marriage, Divorce Certificates
Much More!

Call Now! FREE BROCHURE!

1-702-471-4444 ext. 3023

M.P.C.

APPAREL

"DON'T TREAD ON ME - 2ND AMENDMENT"
T shirt. Menacing rattler entwined around a BOLD 2 on a quality gray T. \$15.00 + \$3.00 S&H. Sizes to XXL. Add \$3.00 for larger sizes. Bob Shuta, PO Box 129, Brackney, PA 18812.

USA OFFICERS, show your (lack of) support for the O'Club. 100% cotton white shirt has "WHY I LOVE THE O'CLUB" logo on left breast and "TOP TEN REASONS TO JOIN YOUR LOCAL O'CLUB" on back. Great to wear while clearing post, turning in your letter of resignation, or have lost all sense of professionalism. Send \$14.00 to Career Enders, PO Box 507, Germantown, MD 20875-507.

BOOKS & PUBLICATIONS

QWEB™ MEN OF ACTION AND ADVENTURE - Paladin Press has been described as "the most dangerous press in America." Millions of satisfied readers disagree. Outrageous and controversial books and videos on firearms, exotic weaponry, new identity, creative revenge, espionage and investigation, privacy, personal freedom, action careers, and more! To order our 80-page catalog describing over 800 titles, send \$2.00 to: Paladin Press, Box 1307-BAQK, Boulder, CO 80306, (800) 392-2400, e-mail service@paladin-press.com. Visit our Web site at www.paladin-press.com.

300,000 Volts Stun Gun



Take Down in One Second.
Most Powerful Stun Gun Available!
Protect Yourself & others. Makes a Great Gift! Satisfaction Guaranteed or Refund.
Order Online at: <http://www.safemarket.com>
Send NOW only \$45.95 + \$5.95 S. & H. to:

Safe Marketing Co, 113 N. Washington St. 366SF, Rockville Md 20850
1-800 521-8521



BADEN WORKING SERVICE CENTRE

To some, survival is merely a term; at Baden we make our own terms for survival. Baden K-9 offers the ultimate training facility for tactical K-9s. We train for live theatre deployment. No sporting dogs. No excuses. Trained adults and pups. From the jungles of Cambodia to the streets of New York City, our dogs have proven their courage and endurance time and again. Phone 905-562-3095 or fax 905-562-4242. All clients and inquiries are kept secure and with the strictest of confidence.

OFFSHORE STRATEGIES

How to go offshore

- Complete financial privacy
- Offshore trusts and IBC's
- Offshore banking
- Visa/Mastercard debit card
- Protect your assets
- Minimize or eliminate taxation
- Global financial strategies

CALL 508-881-4670

REGIMENTAL INSIGNIA & WEAPONRY

• SAS • RAF • BLACK WATCH
• PARA • RM • CAMERONS
• RSDG • RN • GUARDS etc.



45-Page Illustrated Import Catalog \$6.00

BRITISH REGALIA IMPORTS

Department-6

P.O. Box 37 · Palm Harbor, FL 34683

WHO KILLED KENNEDY? Assassination research materials; Videocassettes, photographs, books, unpublished manuscripts. Catalogue: \$3.00. COLLECTOR'S ARCHIVES; Box 2, Beaconsfield, Quebec. H9W 5T6 (Canada).

✓ **MILITARY/INFO PUBLISHING.** Thirty unique books on Military Science and 1600+ manuals. Catalog \$5.00: Military/Info, P.O. Box 27640-SF, Golden Valley, MN 55427

QWEB™ SOLDIER OF FORTUNE RUSSIA! Collectors item, published in Moscow. Various months. Invaluable resource for researchers, military and intelligence professionals. Printed in Russian only. \$5.00 each/3 for \$12. Overseas, add \$10 for Priority Mail. SOF Back Issues, 5735 Arapahoe Ave., Boulder, CO 80303-1340.
WWW.SOFMAG.COM

CORRESPONDENCE COURSES AND MILITARY MANUALS. Combat Skills, Weapons, Tactics, NBC, more. Catalog \$5.00. IIPD/ACCP, Box 1237, Alpine, TX 79830

SURVEILLANCE

COUNTERSURVEILLANCE
Electronic Devices

- Hidden Video Cameras
- Smallest Pinhole Board Cameras
- Voice Changer • Micro Recorders
- Bug and Phone Tap Detectors
- Shotgun Mics • 10 hour Telephone Recording System \$13900 • 16 Hour Telephone Recorder \$19900
- Telephone Scramblers
- Vehicle Tracking System
- Much More...

Catalog \$500

SPY OUTLET

P.O. Box 337, Buffalo NY 14226
(716) 695-8660 / 691-3476

Anti-Saddam Insane STICKER



Full Color, 6" x 7", Die Cut, 7 yr outdoor durability sticks to any clean smooth surface. Send Check or M.O. for \$8.99 (S&H included) to Car Tattoos Decals, PO Box 678, Throggs Neck, NY 10465.

Free Skull Sticker with every order of 2 or more. Satisfaction Guaranteed. (914) 375-0775 - 8:30-5:30 Eastern M-F.

FREEDOM COUNTRY



20 big acres in WESTERN MONTANA, starting at \$19,950.00. Trout fishing, backpacking, camping, Elk, deer, moose, bear. ADJACENT to National Forest, near established towns. Yellowstone and Glacier National Parks nearby. GUARANTEED ACCESS, INSURED TITLE, WARRANTY DEED. FREE color brochure, photos, maps.

FULL MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE
"Video Available"

CALL TOLL-FREE 1-800-592-5990

TREASURE STATE RANCHES

210 Milwaukee Street, Dept. S

Deer Lodge, Montana 59722 — (406) 846-1000

BECOME A PUBLISHED AUTHOR. 75-year tradition of quality book publishing, promotion, distribution. "Author's Guide to Subsidy Book Publishing" 1-800-695-9599.

FREE CATALOG POLITICALLY INCORRECT books & music. Send \$1.00 for postage. Bohica Concepts, Dept. SOF, POB 546, Randle, Washington 98377

Double Secret training manuals, 195+ publications on hacking, spying, weapons, revenge, electronic devices and lots more! Impossible to find information! Free catalog. Information Center, P.O. Box 876F, Hurst, TX 76053 — www.theinformationcenter.com

✓ **SOLDIER OF FORTUNE Magazine Binder.** Holds 12 issues, \$12.00 plus \$4.00 P&H. VISA/MC accepted.. SOF BINDER, PO Box 693, Boulder, CO 80306.

FS BOOK COMPANY

P.O. BOX 417457, DEPT SF
SACRAMENTO, CA 95841-7457

Free Shipping! Fast Service!

How to Get Anything on Anybody.....\$30
The Whole Spy Catalog, 448 pages.....\$45
Divorce Tactics for Men.....\$20
The Anarchist Cookbook.....\$30
Get Even: Complete Book of Dirty Tricks \$20
Homemade Guns & Homemade Ammo...\$15
The Poor Man's James Bond #1, or #2.... \$30
Ragnar's Book of Homemade Weapons...\$25
Privacy, How to Get It, How to Enjoy It... \$18
Ask Me No Questions, I'll Tell You No Lies..\$17
How to Avoid a Drunk Driving Conviction.. \$15
Secrets of a Super Hacker.....\$20
Check Fraud Investigation.....\$17
Counterfeit I.D. Made Easy.....\$16
The 211 Book....\$17 Drug Testing At Work..\$17
Never Say Lie..... \$20 Armed Defense.... \$17
The Flip-off Book...\$15 New ID In America...\$17
The Outlaw's Bible...\$20 The Paper Trip...\$17
Reborn in The U.S.A..\$16 I.D. By Mail....\$20
Ditching Your Debts.... \$15 Free Space...\$15
How to Buy Land Cheap.....\$15
WE SPECIALIZE IN DRUG EDUCATION BOOKS
MANY CENSORED TITLES WE CAN'T LIST!
FAX 1-916-771-4201 FS Catalog..... \$2
Adults Only! CA Res. Add 7.75%
Air Mail Delivery (USA) Add \$3 Per Book.
All Orders Are Shipped In A Plain Package.
Add A \$3 Pro. Fee On Credit Card Orders.
Credit Card Orders 1-800-635-8883
Customer Service 1-916-771-4203
24,000 Titles www.fsbookco.com
SERVING YOU SINCE 1985

PONDEROSA PRODUCTS

- MRE'S (Meals Ready to Eat) with heaters
 - \$57/12 assorted \$53/12 (10 cases or more)
 - MRE Entrees (Assorted) \$125/72
 - MRE Heaters \$10/12 \$150/288
 - USGI OD Ripstop poncho (new) \$25
 - USGI Camo Goretex Jacket \$200 Pants \$110
 - USGI ECW Parka with liner (new) \$40
 - USGI Inter. Cold Sleeping Bag (New) \$120
 - USGI Collapsible water bucket (New) \$15
 - CHEMLIGHTS (Red, green, yellow) \$15/10
- Free shipping (USA) **CATALOG \$2**
PONDEROSA SPORTS & MERCANTILE
6854 Highway 55 (208-793-3121)
Horseshoe Bend, Idaho 83629

NEW SURVIVAL COMMUNICATIONS BOOK

— How to build complete home communications systems. Covers all needs — shortwave radio, amateur radio, citizens band, scanners, federal, weather, alternate news, satellite radio, equipment sources. How to build and use alternate emergency power sources, solar, generators, backup batteries. 200 pages. \$24.00 Fast Delivery Priority Mail. MC or Visa. Call Universal Electronics 800-241-8171.

Advanced — Hardcore - Training program, specially designed for Special Forces and Police SWAT teams. Complete 1 year program - covers Power Training, Speed Training, Periodization, Nutrition, Grip Strength Training, Circuit Training, Plyometrics, Mental Attitude. Very Motivational! Send \$10.00 to Extreme Power, PO Box 1370, Pearl City, HI 96782

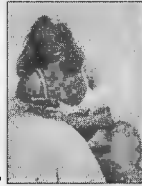
ARM YOURSELF. POCKETSIZE U.S. CONSTITUTION and Declaration of Independence. Only \$5.95, Dorseyorg Press, 1305-C North Main Street, Ste 140A, Summerville, SC 29483

ARMED & DANGEROUS

1998 Calendar \$14.95 Each



Send
Payment
Plus
\$4.00 S&H
to:



TRG INC.

342 N. Hague Ave., Dept. SOF
Columbus, OH 43204
<http://members.aol.com/TRGInfo>

14 ALL NEW Calendar Photos!

GET LEGAL FAST! **DRIVER'S LICENSE SUSPENDED?**

TWO SIMPLE STEPS! LEARN HOW YOU CAN GET A LEGAL DRIVER'S LICENSE FAST AND EASY. NEW AND UNIQUE METHOD WORKS EVERYTIME REGARDLESS OF YOUR PAST RECORD. 100% GUARANTEED.

FOR SOME VERY REVEALING INFORMATION!
QUALITY RESEARCH, DEPT S3
P.O. BOX 192, LINCOLN PARK, MICHIGAN 48146

SEND \$3.00

CABLE T.V. DESCRAMBLERS AND TEST CHIPS

All major brands.
30-day money back guarantee.
1-year warranty.

JCB ELECTRONICS
1-800-579-3285

LOST DOCUMENTS REPLACED

SEND \$2.00 for 8-PAGE CATALOG
MILITARY AWARDS / CERTIFICATES / MEDALS
UNIVERSITY / COLLEGE / HIGH SCHOOL
FOR ENTERTAINMENT & COLLECTORS
Couch Potato Publishing
443 FOX RUN DRIVE, BLUE RIDGE, GA 30513

■ Did this get your attention? It's a "Dingbat." So are ✓ and ●. Add them to your SOF classified ad for \$5/each.

COLLECTORS

QWEB™ MILITARY COLLECTIBLES CATALOG 1900 TO PRESENT, LEE-JACKSON MILITARIA, P.O. Box 8663, San Jose, CA 95155. Call 408-295-1136 or fax 408-288-6350 (mailing charges: foreign \$8.00, domestic \$5.00) credit cards accepted, U.S. Militaria wanted!

BRITISH/SCOTTISH MILITARIA COLLECTORS. Regimental insignia and accessories of elite Regiments; including SAS; Paratroops; Royal Marines; Black Watch; Guards, etc. 45-page illustrated Import Catalog \$6.00. BRITISH REGALIA IMPORTS, Department 6A, PO Box 37, Palm Harbor, FL 34682.

VIETNAM WAR INSIGNIA and Uniform List. I mail a list of Vietnam War Militaria six times per year. Lists are \$4.00 each. Insignia are pictured so you know what you are buying. I always have a nice collection of original patches, insignia, books, maps,

Need NEW ID ? CREDIT · PRIVACY

OUR BOOKS HELP YOU GET: New identity & credit.
• Jobs in 48 hours. College degrees. ID by mail.
• Cash income. Private loans. Foreign passports.
FREE 40 pg. **PRIVACY CATALOG:** 800-338-8484
EDEN PRESS • Box 8410-HB • Fountain Valley, CA 92728

INFORMATION SERVICES

Know who you are dealing with?

Locate Telephone Number and Addresses, Identity Verification, Criminal Records Checks, Motor Vehicle Reports, Background Checks, Business Reports, Marriage and Death Records, More. Contact:

JGS Inc.

P.O. Box 120176,
Staten Island, New York 10312-0176
718-984-9012, Fax: 718-356-7256

NUDISM LIFESTYLE: FAMILY RECREATION

Publications • Videos

\$3 for details:

LIFESTYLES-SF

Box 661268, Los Angeles, CA 90066

uniforms, field gear etc. Both U.S. and VC/NVA. I also buy singles and collections of Vietnam War souvenirs. 100% guarantee from me. Buy with confidence. BILL BROOKS, P.O. Box 230832, Montgomery, AL 36123.

RHODESIAN AND SOUTH AFRICAN badges, medals, and uniforms to sale. For a list send \$2 to KAPLANS, Box 890638, Lyndhurst 2106, South Africa - <http://users.iafrica.com/r/rh/rhodesia> or e-mail: rhodesia@iafrica.com

✓ **SOLDIER OF FORTUNE RUSSIA!** Collectors item, published in Moscow. Various months. Invaluable resource for researchers, military and intelligence professionals. Printed in Russian only. \$5.00 each/3 for \$12. Overseas, add \$10 for Priority Mail. SOF Back Issues, 5735 Arapahoe Ave., Boulder, CO 80303-1340.

EDUCATION

TERMPAPER assistance. 19,278 topics available! 306-page catalog—rush \$2.00. Research, 11322 Idaho, #206EX, Los Angeles, CA 90025. TOLL-FREE HOTLINE: 800-351-0222 or www.research-assistance.com

QWEB™ Internet ads are now available on the SOLDIER OF FORTUNE web site WWW.SOF-MAG.COM Classified advertisers: Pay \$20/ month in addition to your print ad charge. Free QWEB™ tag for your print ad included. Display advertisers: \$50/ month surcharge for B&W ads, \$100/ month color. Limited availability; some restrictions apply. Prices subject to change.

EMPLOYMENT

PROFESSIONAL BODYGUARD ASSOCIATION (Employment Notice) All US citizens with Police, Military, or Security experience who attend a training course with the PBA, will be offered some form of employment contract after their training. For full

COLLECTORS & SPORTSMEN
AUTO KNIFE BLOWOUT!

#102 #104

\$39.95 ea.

2 For **\$64.95**
 Plus \$4 Ship/Hndl

#102 **NATO MILITARY**
 3 1/4" Stainless blade. Front opening, fast lever-action.

#104 **THE GODFATHER.**
 Stiletto. 4" lightning-quick side open stainless steel blade. Lifetime Money-Back Guarantee.

Order 2 knives & get **FREE!** Swiss Army Knife.
 Check or M.O. to **PERFORMANCE KNIVES**
 1202 Lexington Ave (Rm 192 Dept SA-3), New York, NY 10028
 Limited offer. ACT NOW **1-800-324-4371**

U.S. GOVERNMENT LAND

Federally owned land currently available in AK, AZ, AR, CA, CO, ID, MT, NV, NM, OR, UT, WA, WY for **\$2.50 per acre** U.S. citizens entitled to purchase **up to 160 acres per person**. For complete information package including maps, telephone helpline, filing forms, etc. send \$20 check or money order to: **FEDERAL LAND CO., Dept L, Box 21598, Washington, DC 20009.** (Note: this is not homesteading—lands are sold outright.) **MONEYBACK GUARANTEE!**

U.S. MILITARY INSIGNIA
 1940 through Current
 Large Catalog, \$3.00

SAUNDERS
 Box 3133 • SF • Naples, FL 33939-3133

details, send a large Self Addressed Envelope with either \$2 or 2 International postal reply coupons to: **The White House, 24 Cumberland Tce, Willington, Co Durham, DL15 OPB, ENGLAND, UK.**

INTERESTING CAREER LISTINGS. Police, security, investigation. Nationwide, some international. Executives to \$119,300. Positions explained. Four monthly issues. \$21.95. PSIC/FO, P.O. Box 3831, Springfield, IL 62708.

FINANCIAL

MONEY AVAILABLE NOW! Let the Government Finance your business idea. Satisfaction Guaranteed. Call Toll Free: 1-800-226-3601, Extension BF7770.

KNIVES - BAYONETS

COLD STEEL, Spyderco, Gerber, SOG, Benchmade, Smith & Wesson and more. Huge discounts! Free List. **KNIVES PLUS MAIL ORDER, (800) 687-6202.**

MISCELLANEOUS

✓ **INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF MERCENARIES** Membership Coin. Free registration with order. \$15. ea. plus \$3. S&H. John Langley, Box 804, Nokomis FL 34274.

GOT A TATTOO? TRY FLASHBACK! The lotion that puts the flash back in your tattoo. Odorless, greaseless, great for older tattoos. Money back guarantee. Lauthryn Enterprises, Inc., P.O. Box 117, Mt. Holly, NJ 08060. 1-800-632-9413. \$14.95 (NJ 6% tax) plus \$3.95 S&H. VISA/MASTERCARD

NEW! PANTHER™ BULL 24" SP

COMPLETE LINE OF A-15 RIFLES, PARTS, KITS AND ACCESSORIES

LEATHERWOOD ART II Sniper Scopes

DPMS Please send \$1.00 for our new catalog

13983 Industry Avenue • Becker, MN 55308
 PHONE 1-612-261-5600 FAX 1-612-261-5599

PAPERWEIGHTS
 Made of solid brass. 1/2 lb.

ORDER NO. 05 Or 2 for
 Bud K Price \$12.95 \$22.50

Mail Orders To: **BUD K Worldwide**
 P.O. Box 2768, Dept. SF
 Moultrie, GA 31776
 1-800-543-5061

Add \$4.00 for Shipping

WORLD'S LARGEST SURPLUS MARKET

for used military vehicles:
 jeeps, tanks, HMMWVs, military trucks, more. 100's of ads, tech tips, how-to, articles, event listings, much more!

MILITARY VEHICLES MAGAZINE

1 year (six BIG 100+ page issues)
 USA \$18, Canada \$28, (Sample \$5)
 12-L2 Indianhead, Morristown, NJ 07960

LET THE GOVERNMENT PAY for your new or existing home. Over 100 different programs available. Free recorded message: (707) 448-3210. (8KW5)

VETERANS, have you received all the **MEDALS** you earned in the military? 1-900-255-1010 ext. 196. \$2.00 per min. Avg. call 2 mins. Avg. cost \$4.00/Maximum cost \$10.00. Touch-tone phone req. Under 18 get parent's permission. Cust. Serv., NAC Carmel, CA (408) 620-0202

SELL: 3 Transcript frequency-hopper VHF hand held radios. State-of-the-art; program from Windows 95; unjammable; encrypted; New batteries, charger, programmer \$2950. Dan 505-269-2056.

SECRET SUBJECTS \$29 – The World's Largest Collection of Underground Information Packed on a PC Cd-Rom: Fake Ids, New Identities, Booby Traps, Hacking, Lock Picking, Scams, Revenge, Explosives, Coin Machines, Beating Polygraphs & Hundreds More! Credit Cards/Money Orders – <http://www.dresearch.com>

QWEB™ Internet ads are now available on the **SOLDIER OF FORTUNE** web site **WWW.SOF-MAG.COM** Classified advertisers: Pay \$20/ month in addition to your print ad charge. Free **QWEB™** tag for your print ad included. Display advertisers: \$50/ month surcharge for B&W ads, \$100/ month color. Limited availability; some restrictions apply. Prices subject to change.

The Catalog of Restricted Devices & Publications

You Won't Believe The Stuff Contained In This Catalog!

Thousands of hard to find devices including:
 Auto Entry Tools, Restricted Potions & Powders, Digital Voice Changers, Drug Education Books, Anti-Theft Products, New ID & Credit Publications, Telephone Recording Devices, Covert Operation Devices, Electronic Harassment Devices, Explosives and Munitions Manuals, Lock Picking Tools, High Tech Video Systems, Self Defense Products, Revenge & Harassment Books plus much more!

Catalog Only \$3.00

THE UNDERGROUND SHOPPER
 P.O. Box 54400 • Dept. SF-1
 Phoenix, AZ 85078-4400

CALL TOLL FREE: 1(888) 588-0123

Send For Your Copy Today!

BOUNTY HUNTERS COULD GET KILLED OR IMPRISONED

From Ignorance of the Law & Procedures
BAIL FUGITIVE RECOVERY SERVICE MANUAL
 175 Page Guide covers the Bail Recovery business from "A to Z". (Procedures, Training, Examples). Written by a Calif. Lic. P.I. and Former Law Enforcement Officer.
 \$75.00 + \$5.00 VISA/MC S&H 2604 - B, EL CAMINO REAL, STE 268 CARLSBAD CA 92008
 (ALLOW 22 - 25 DAYS) TEL: 888-434-8219 FAX: 760-724-7105

Men & Women! Be A ...

PRIVATE EYE

Amazing one-of-a-kind home study course tells all! Want a life of intrigue, excitement, adventure?! Quickly learn from the experts:

- How To Earn **\$100,000** A Year As Your Own Boss!
- How To Conduct All Types Of Private Investigations, Skiptracing & Surveillance!
- How To Start Your Own Private Detective Agency!
- How To Work From Home, Part-Time or FullTime!
- No Experience Necessary. No Investment Required!

STATE APPROVED

Located in the Entertainment Capitol Of the World! **(213) 879-1165**

FREE DETAILS UNITED STATES ACADEMY OF PRIVATE INVESTIGATION
 P.O. BOX 2133 (SF)
 BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90213

REMAILING SERVICES

PRIVACY, CONFIDENTIAL MAIL RECEIVING /Forwarding, Since 1981 Single ReMails \$1.00, Phone, Fax, Box, Street Address available, Maildrop, Box 608039-SOF, Orlando, FL 32860-8039, Website -<http://www.orlandomaildrop.com>

QWEB™ CONFIDENTIAL ADDRESS. Mail received here, then forwarded to you worldwide. Voicemail, too! Website address - www.netcom.com/~mailpost. MAILPOST, 2421SOF Pratt, Chicago, IL 60645. 773-764-0100. 800-890-3199.

HEY PATRIOTS!

Bumper Stickers!

Only \$6.95

#BS103 "Ban Liberals Not Guns"
#BS104 "Real Men Prefer Women"

SF198

Mail check or money order to:
Righteous Redneck, Inc., PO Box 1643,
Southeastern, PA 19399-1643

Order # _____ Qty. _____ x \$6.95= _____

Order # _____ Qty. _____ x \$6.95= _____

S+H \$ 1.95

PA residents add Tax \$ _____

6% sales tax. Total \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (____) _____



Executive V.I.P. Protection Manual

150 page Guide Covering the full scope of Personal-Corp.-Services Employee Threat Assessment, Background Checks, Advance Work and more. Written by P.I. and Former Government Service Officer.

2604 - B, EL CAMINO REAL, STE 268 \$75.00 + \$5.00
CARLSBAD CA 92008 VISA/MC S&H
TEL: 888-434-8219 FAX: 760-724-7105 (ALLOW 22 - 25 DAYS)

U.S. MILITARY You Get: 2 Stainless Steel Dog TAGS

Stainless Steel * Bright Shiny
Black * Brass
4.5" & 27" Chains \$6.00

We will imprint your Name, Address, Phone & more on each tag.
5 lines of print, 18 Spaces.
Your choice of 1 or 2 Silencer colors
Black, Red, Blue, Orange, Green, Yellow

NEW Bright tags \$6.00 - Black & Brass \$7.00 add \$1.00 S&H
NHC, INC. Dept. SF * 2137 Rust Ave., Cape Girardeau MO 63703

HAT PINS • MEDALS • BALL CAPS

FREE COLOR CATALOG
• 2500+ Military Designs
• Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines
• **Call now! Toll-free!**
1-888-223-1159
• Custom pins & patches available.
Dealer inquiries welcome.

HONORS
by Hoover's Mfg., Co.
P.O. Box 547SF, Peru, IL 61354
Fax: 1-815-223-1499

RELIABLE MAIL FORWARDING - Confidential and forwarded to you world wide. **HOMETOWN SERVICES** - TEL/FAX: (702) 575-4809, SOF1, P.O. Box 820, Fernley, NV 89408-0820.

PROTECT YOUR PRIVACY! P.O. Boxes, mail drops, and home addresses leave a trail. We are not a remailer, but we do have the answer! 501-785-3424 or www.ebservices.com

SURPLUS

GOVERNMENT AUCTIONS in your area! Must sell: Cars, trucks, computers, more! Great deals! Call Now Toll Free: 1-800-601-2212, ext. SP7770

TRAINING

Learn Seal, Delta, Spetsnaz & SF Secrets to achieve in fighting, shooting, fitness and more. Free Info Call 800-908-0107 ext. 2 / Training. 96

Be a DETECTIVE

Explore a secret world! Fascinating new career. Experience a new adventure every day. Dynamic home study course. Diploma, Badge. State approved. **FREE DETECTIVE CAREER KIT 1-800-742-9007 Ext. 301**
DETECTIVE TRAINING Box 509 • San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675



The only book of its kind!

Men: Move to Paradise!

Want to live in paradise? You can!

In this exciting new book you'll discover ways that you can enjoy a fabulous tropical lifestyle!

Contains EVERYTHING YOU NEED including:

- "Female" Information** - "Can't miss" paradises for sizzling romance. Enjoy hot romance with beautiful foreign women - regardless of your age, income or looks!
- Business Information** - Best business opportunities and sources of financing. Get rich while having fun!
- Job Information** - Great jobs and how to get them. No degree or foreign language required!
- Passport & Visa Information** - Insiders' secrets to getting visas and keeping them current!

Others are doing it and so can you - Order now!

Mention this ad & save \$5 off the regular price of \$24.95
Now only \$19.95 + \$6.00 Shipping & Handling
Visa/MC/Amex/Discover orders Call (800) 460-5056
or Mail check or money order to: Alexander & Watson,
P.O. Box 330155 - Suite 7051, Ft. Worth TX 76163.
FAST SHIPPING * MONEY BACK GUARANTEE!
* Cannot be found in book stores.*



SPECIAL OPERATIONS SUPPLY

Knives-Gun Holsters-Web Gear-T SHIRTS-Uniforms-Boots-Hats
Order, by Mail On the Web or Call (210) 661-6507 Credit Cards Accepted
SKULL T-SHIRT L-XXL white skull on black \$0.50 Hanes \$7.95+ \$3.00 S/H in US, XXL add \$2.00
P.O. Box 8141 San Antonio, TX 78208 <http://www.sostx.com>

VIDEOS

BUSTY BIKINI BIMBOS, STRIPPERS, NUDE DANCERS, AMATEURS, biker babes & most nude pay-TV events. 1000 videos, B-movies, adult cards & photos. 10th anniversary catalog & 30-min. preview video: \$10 to Perfect 10, 12880 Hidalgo St, Desert Hot Springs CA 92240; fax 619-329-0817; (800) GIRL-USA; www.perfect10.com.

WANTED

WANTED - Executive Protection & Investigative Professionals. International Networking Association. Send \$17.50 for infopak to: BASECA, 4 Maple Ave., Morristown, NJ 07960.

WEBSITES

OWEB™ NEW CATEGORY - For only \$25/month (2-month/\$50 minimum), you can list your Website or Internet URL + 10 words right here. This is a great way to get out the word on your site. \$10/month more gets it listed on the SOF website (WWW.SOFMAG.COM). Limited time offer; prepay up to 12 months at this low rate.

"The French Foreign Legion - A Guidebook to Joining" - See our web site at: <http://www/ivybridge.co.uk/foreign-legion/>

Ninjutsu - Martial Arts Seminars in Switzerland: www.ninja.ch

SOF Jumps Into Cuba

Continued from page 88

a black and white photograph of Errol Flynn and Hemingway together, 1960, a year before Hemingway's death. *My Wicked, Wicked Ways* meets *Death in the Afternoon*. I could only imagine the drinking and whoring those two graying sybarites got up to even in their 60s. Experience tells, they say. I cooled off in the air-conditioned bar



American tourist Jerry Lee on a Havana street corner. Lee and author E. Lee Shippey flew to Cuba for a harrowing parachute jump and a Hemingway-style booze tour.

room and knocked back a good half-dozen daiquiris, feeling even better as the slushy booze hit my gut. I felt very comfortable in *El Florida*.

I thought about what this place must have been like in the days when it was frequented by Hemingway, Ava Gardner, Graham Greene, all well-known *Cubanophiles*, and such rich and famous visitors as Brando, Cooper and Errol Flynn. The free-wheeling, licentious, and rum-soaked Havana where the mob controlled the casinos and Meyer Lansky himself organized the town from his suite in the Riviera - those days are long gone. And while the city may again be reminiscent of Graham Greene's *Our Man in Havana*, it isn't exactly rushing back in time to the 1950s era of cockfights, gambling, and whoring. But someday, when Castro finally goes quietly into the night, when communism suffers its own death-knell, when a new era of open relations and freedom of movement between the United States and Cuba is ushered in, and the Cuban exiles return as modern carpetbaggers with Samsonites full of cash to invest, it's going to be wild. I won't miss that show. Yeah, I'll definitely be back.

Surveying the bar, daiquiri in hand, and contemplating a Partagas Double Corona, this *Yanqui imperialista* wondered how he was going to blow the rest of his money before he left Havana's steamy sensuality for the cold, snowy hills of western New York. Ahh, yes, some things never change.

E. Lee Shippey is a frequent contributor to SOF. Without his mustache he looks like Robert Redford's character in the movie Havana. ✕

ADVERTISERS INDEX

Adco	33	Hatherleigh Publishing	20	S&K Labs	90, 92
ATN Night Vision	19	Hawk East	89	Shotgun News	84
Autauga Arms	81	Hogue Grips	22	Silver Creek	92
Automatic Knife Resource Guide	27	Inter-American Security Products	90	Silverman's	86
Benchmark	80	IRSAIS	78	SOF Subscriptions	18
Blackhawk Industries	16-17	Kel-Tec	15	SOS	89
Black Hills Ammo	5	L.A. Law Enforcers	92	Southern Ordnance	87
Boker USA	25	L.A.R. Manufacturing	89	S.P.I.K.E.	74-75
Brownell's	90	LOTI Group Productions	82, 88	Springfield Armory	21, 29
		LRRP K-9 Services	92	Starlight Systems	76
Bud K Worldwide	91	Matthews Police Supply Co.	91	Starline Brass	85
Bushmaster	10	Maxsell Corp.	92	Steve Arnold's Gunroom	77
CDSS	78	Michigan Body Armor	86	Stor-Tite Containers	8
Chase-Durer	Cover 4	Military Book Club	9	Tactical Video Security Int'l	91
Cold Steel	8	MORO Vision Night Vision	89	Threat Response Solutions	11-14
Dakota Arms	Cover 2	National Rifle Association	27	U.S. Cavalry	91
Delta Press	23	NIC. Inc. Law Enforcement Supply ..	89	USI Corp.	92
Direct Action Video	26	Paladin Press	7	Walter Scott International	90
Eden Press	89	Pearce Grip	29, 83	Warrior's Press	90
European Connections	25	Police Supply Store	83	Wilson Combat	86
Excalibur Enterprises	6	Professional Career Development	79, 89, 90, 91		
Firearms Marketing Group	24	Pyramid Nutrition	91		
Force XXI Combat Knives	76	Ranger Joe's	90		
Front Sight Training Institute	84	Round Eye Knife & Tool	79		
Gerber Legendary Blades	Cover 3	RPB	90		
Global School of Investigation	91				

ADVERTISING POLICY: Publication of any advertisement in *Soldier Of Fortune* Magazine is not an endorsement of the advertiser of the product(s) or service(s) advertised, either by SOF Magazine or by the Editor and Publisher.

SOLDIER OF FORTUNE ADVERTISING RATES AND REQUIREMENTS

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING: \$3 per word per insertion, \$60 minimum. You may prepay two months for 10% discount; six months for 20% discount; or take 30% off for 12 months prepaid (\$2.10/word). See below for details. Repeat your same ad in another section for half price. \$10 charge for copy changes (new address, Dept. #/key code, etc.). "Dingbats" (✓, ●, ■), **bold words** (other than first 3-4): \$5.00/each extra. Computer word count of grammatically correct copy. EXAMPLE: PO Box 693 = 3 words; 80306 and 303-449-3750, etc. each = 1 word; abbreviations such as DI, SGT, 20mm = 1 word. No ads accepted by telephone. **Ad copy must be typed.** If you cannot type it, include an additional \$10, and print clearly. Include authorizing signature, mailing address, telephone or fax number (for our files) and e-mail address if available. Mail classified ads with payment to SOF, ATTN: Classified Dept., at address below.

DISPLAY ADVERTISING: Rates start at \$140/month for 1" (2.5 cm) boxed text ads in our classified section. Supply Depot rates start at \$296/month for a 1/12th page ad and \$407/month for 1/6th page. These rates are based on 12x contracts.

ΩWEB™ INTERNET ADS are now available on the *Soldier of Fortune* web site (WWW.SOFMAG.COM) at special introductory prices. Classified advertisers: Pay \$30/month in addition to your print ad cost for each text ad; \$40/month for small display ads. Free ΩWEB™ tag for your print text ad included. Display advertisers: \$50/month surcharge for B&W ads, \$100/month color. Limited availability; some restrictions apply. Prices subject to change. Inquire for rates on hypertext links to your site.

CONTACT US AT: OMEGA GROUP ADVERTISING • 5735 Arapahoe Ave. • Boulder, CO 80303-1340
Telephone: 1-303-449-3750 ext. 4 • **Fax:** 1-303-444-5617 • **E-mail:** advert@sofmag.com
On-Line Media Kit: www.sofmag.com/mediakit.html

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS: We reserve the right to refuse any ad for any reason and to delete or change any copy that we consider objectionable, false or in poor taste. It is our policy not to accept advertisements for personal services, including 'will do anything' or 'go anywhere' type ads. We accept no ads without signed authorization or an insertion order. Advertisers offering information packets for a fee must send sample (non-returnable). All new ads must be prepaid (check, wire transfer, money order or Visa/MC).

HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT: By authorizing placement of advertisement in *Soldier of Fortune*, advertiser agrees to abide by all applicable local, state, national and international laws governing his product or service. Advertiser further agrees that *Soldier of Fortune* and Omega Group shall have no liability beyond the price charged for the advertisement in the event of any losses incurred by him due to his ad running (or not running) in *Soldier of Fortune*.

NOTICE TO READERS: SOLDIER OF FORTUNE is an adult magazine of national and international distribution. There may be products advertised or described herein for which sale, possession or interstate transportation is restricted, prohibited or subject to special licensing requirements. *Soldier Of Fortune* does not verify validity of every advertisement and/or the legality of every product offered. Purchasers should consult their local law enforcement authorities. *Soldier Of Fortune* does not intend for any product or service advertised to be used illegally. Should any reader have a problem with an advertiser, he should seek assistance from his nearest postal inspector and also contact our advertising department. *Soldier of Fortune* and Omega Group assume no responsibility nor liability for any losses incurred by purchasers due to non-compliance with applicable laws or for any other reasons. *Caveat emptor*; buyer beware.

Mad-Dog Saddam Vs. Wait-And-See Clinton

Saddam Hussein is like a rabid dog, and the United Nations and Bill Clinton are acting like the leaders of a kinder-gentler chapter of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

The U.N. says, "That dog won't bite anymore. Leave him alone, give him a few bones and let him roam the neighborhood." Meanwhile, Bill Clinton, who ain't exactly acting like JFK during the Cuban Missile Crisis, is treating Saddam like he is an Arkansas political problem, trying to bring him in line with the promise of a suitcase full of money rather than busting his sorry butt.

Mad Dog Saddam cannot be trusted. He has already bitten his neighbors and growled at the world half a dozen times. But the U.N. and Bill Clinton think that appeasement will work with this hydrophobic beast.

The soft approach didn't work with Hitler or Stalin. Both gave the word holocaust a new meaning. And during their reigns of terror they developed incredible weapons of mass destruction — yet in spite of their evil natures they never used these weapons in their attempts to conquer the world.

Besides killing over a million people by conventional means over the last 20 years, Saddam has already used these horror weapons against the Iranians, the Kurds, the Israelis — and probably the coalition forces — during Desert Storm. He's as bad or even worse than Hitler and Stalin. Yet for some inexplicable reason the U.N. and Clinton treat Saddam as if he is redeemable.

He's not, and he must be hammered.

The United States will be damned by the world if it does and damned if it doesn't remove him from power. One thing for sure, the longer he sits on his throne, the more threatening he becomes, not only to his neighbors but to the world.

I know well the horror of war, and like most soldiers who have witnessed it, the military solution is not one I easily advocate. But with Saddam we're not involved with a rational human being that can be dealt with through puffing on a peace-pipe. The record shows he only respects force.

Since the end of Desert Storm he has become only more powerful and influential. When the embargo is lifted, he'll have bags of oil money to buy even more weapons of mass destruction and probably buy more than a few Russian, Chinese and French missiles with which to deliver them.

He has committed crimes against humanity that make him



Col. David Hackworth, (Ret.) also writes a syndicated weekly column titled "Defending America." "Hack" doesn't pull any punches and many liberal rags won't carry his writing. If your local paper falls into that category, call the editor and let him know you'd like to see "Defending America" on the Op-Ed page. It's syndicated by King Features, 235 E. 45th St., New York, NY 10017.

one of the most heinous men in the history of humankind, continually violated the most basic rules of civilized behavior and even used his country's women and children as hostages to protect himself.

Not to use force now simply delays the inevitable. George Bush let him walk, and Clinton has again put the Saddam problem in the too-hard box.

The solution of what to do with Saddam can no longer be treated like a hot potato to be passed to the next administration. As soon as our forces are ready, we should execute the military option. We should start with bombing his capability to produce oil, cutting off his cash flow. Simultaneously, fuel explosive bombs should be dropped on all of his chemical and biological plants.

After his cash register no longer rings and he's been defanged of his mass-destruction weapons, if he's still in charge, then we should kick up the pain by:

- Putting real teeth into the embargo, and stopping all traffic coming and going into Iraq.
- Extending the no-fly zone to include all of Iraq.
- Taking out his air defense, command and control and chewing up his Republican Guard.
- Declaring Saddam Hussein a war criminal as we did with the thugs who ran WWII Germany and Japan and more

recently in ex-Yugoslavia and demanding the goody-goodies in the U.N. put him away.

- Block the Tigris and the Euphrates Rivers. No water, no Saddam.

Saddam must be dealt with. You cannot cut a deal with the devil. If he's not taken out, down the track Americans can expect chemical- biological- and nuclear-terrorist attacks on our cities which will far surpass the horror and casualties that devastated America during our Civil War.

Http://www.hackworth.com is the address of David Hackworth's home page.

Copyright 1997 David H. Hackworth
Distributed by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Hackworth's best-selling book, *Hazardous Duty*, has topped 90,000 copies in worldwide sales. ✕

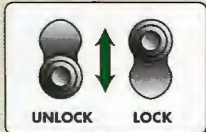
POCKET KNIVES JUST GOT SERIOUS

Introducing the **NEW** Compact
Applegate-Fairbairn® Covert™ Folder

GERBER
LEGENDARY BLADES
A Division of Fiskars Inc.

Interlock™

Patented by renowned
knife designers Ron Lake
and Michael Walker
(U.S. Patent #5,596,808)



**Detachable Steel
Pocket Clip**

Applegate-Fairbairn® Folders:

COVERT™ FOLDER



COMBAT FOLDER

- LinerLock® with NEW Interlock™ Manual Safety Lock
- ATS-34 High Carbon Stainless Steel Blade
- Made in the U.S.A.

New Smaller Size, Same Great Design!

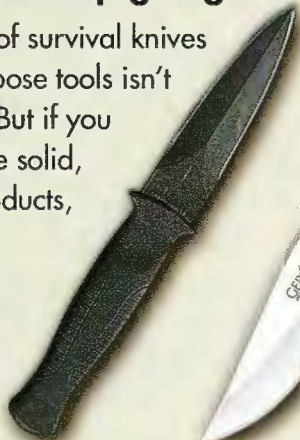
Gerber Legendary Blades / A Division of Fiskars, Inc. / P.O. Box 23088 Portland, OR 97281

IF YOUR GOAL IS SURVIVAL...

GERBER
LEGENDARY BLADES

**Gerber Legendary Blades builds the tools
you need to keep going.**

Our selection of survival knives
and multi-purpose tools isn't
for everyone. But if you
can appreciate solid,
well-made products,
we have the
merchandise.



#05803
Guardian Back-Up®



#06770
ATS-34 E-Z-Out®
Serrated



#05780
Applegate-Fairbairn®
Combat Folder



#07530
Multi-Lock™
Needlenose

Gerber Legendary Blades
P.O. Box 23088
14200 SW 72nd Ave.
Portland, OR 97281-3088 USA

...THEN OUR BUSINESS IS INSURANCE!



**NO POSTAGE
NECESSARY
IF MAILED
IN THE
UNITED STATES**

BUSINESS REPLY MAIL

FIRST-CLASS MAIL

PERMIT NO. 8

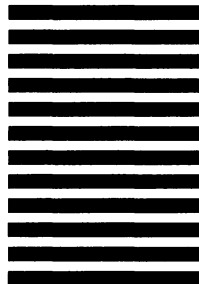
MT. MORRIS, IL

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

**SOLDIER OF
FORTUNE**

PO BOX 348

MT MORRIS IL 61054-9817





**DESIGNED FOR
MILITARY PILOTS**

**PILOT
COMMANDER
CHRONOGRAPH**

- NEW SEIKO YM55 QUARTZ MOVEMENT
- 7 Hands, 4 Dials, 3 Push-Buttons
- Revolving E6B Flight Computer Bezel
- Speed Tachymetre
- Sapphire Lens
- Unidirectional Flyback Sweep
- 6 Hour Elapsed Time
- Solid Stainless Steel Case & Band
- Double Lock Security Clasp
- 1/10th, Partial & Split Second Timing
- Start/Stop/Return Lap Timer
- Full Glow Tritium Hands & Indexes
- Water Resistant to 330 ft
- Calendar Date Window
- 30 Day Money Back Guarantee
- Same Day Shipping

**ALL
NEW
MODEL**

OR SEND CHECK OR MONEY ORDER TO:

CHASE-DURER Ltd.

270 No. Canon Dr., Department 1402-507 Beverly Hills, CA 90210
Phone: 310.550.7280 / Fax: 310.550.0830 / www.WatchShop.com

\$400 Value -

NOW ONLY \$179

plus \$6 shipping

Credit Card Orders Call:

1.800.544.4365

Ask for operator 507